1893

FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

OF FLORIDA.

JACKSONVILLE, MARCH 22, '93.

JACKSONVILLE, FLA.
DACOSTA PRINTING AND PUBLISHING HOUSE
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Compliments of

JOSEPH Y. PORTER, M. D.,

State Health Officer of Florida.

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OFFICERS AND MEMBERS

OF THE

STATE BOARD OF HEALTH OF FLORIDA.

HON. W. B. HENDERSON, President, Tampa, Fla.
HON. J. P. TALIAFERRO, Jacksonville, Fla.
DR. WARREN E. ANDERSON, Pensacola, Fla.
DR. JOSEPH Y. PORTER, State Health Officer and Secretary, Key West, Fla.

Office of the Board, Jacksonville, Fla.

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL.

TAMPA, FLORIDA, March 25th, 1893.

To His Excellency Hon. H. L. Mitchell, Governor of Florida:

SIR—The Statute requires that I should make a report to you of the annual expenditures of the State Board of Health "together with any special observations, recommendations or facts that would be conducive to the health and sanitary conditions of the State." In accordance with this requirement I transmit herewith the annual report of the Secretary and Health Officer of the Board, in which you will find tables in detail of the expenditures of the Board and other information relating to its financial management.

It is not my purpose to remark on the portion of Health Officer Porter's report, relating to Public Health and Vital Statistics of the State, during the past year, except so far as to commend the same to the careful attention of your Excellency, as embracing many interesting and instructive facts. The State Board, in a recent session, approved unanimously of the statements, reflections and recommendations of the State Health Officer, and requested that as President of the Board, and in transmitting this document, I should especially comment upon certain conditions bearing upon the continuance and success of a system which has, in the opinion of the Board, been of such great benefit to the State of Florida.

It will be remembered by your Excellency that this Board of Health commenced its efforts in the preservation of the public health of Florida, at a time when the citizens of the State, and of neighboring States, were disturbed by the occurrences of the previous years, and at a time too,

when an anxious and nervous dread pervaded the whole State, lest a repetition of the sad events, and great commercial depression of 1887 and 1888 should be repeated in in 1889. The responsibility assumed by this Board can scarcely be appreciated, except by those whose business brought them in intimate relation with the executive of the Board during the first year of its organization. Legislated into existence with no apparent support (for there was no money in the State Treasury for this especial purpose) it had as a legacy, the epidemic of the year before, with the attendant results of inefficient county quarantines, and all the horrors of shot-gun detensions, quarantine camps and the general upsetting of business interests.

It is scarcely necessary to invite comparison of the business affairs of the State today with those of four years ago. The confidence of the public now in the powers of the State Board to successfully cope with all emergencies in health matters and in the prevention of epidemics is in marked contrast to the doubt and distrust which marked the era of County Board supremacy, and it is not believed that the people of Florida wish to return to or rely alone upon that method of protecting the health and adjusting her business interests. Therefore the Board views with solicitude for the State's future commercial welfare, as well as her health preservation, a sentiment, which, in the spirit of mistaken economy, suggests the reduction of taxation by the repeal of the Statute creating the Board.

It has been suggested that a reduction in the expense in the financial management of the Board could be made by requesting the General Government to operate the quarantines of the State. Under the National Law as at present enacted it is not contemplated that the States should do this, nor is any provision made by the Treasury Department to purchase Disinfecting or Quarantine Plants from the States or municipalities. Indeed if this procedure was practicable the Board would not deem it advisable in the

interest of State self-respect and efficient management to counsel surrendering to the National Government any of the inherent rights and duties devolving upon the State. It considers that any economy of funds is false if made at the expense of capable management, for it is believed by the Board that it is better qualified to know, appreciate and make effective whatever surveillance and protection may be necessary than a Government Bureau a thousand miles or more away from the points to be watched. The State Board, deriving its authority from the people of the State, is directly responsible to them for the proper exercise of such authority, and is accordingly more interested in the health and commercial interests of the commonwealth.

Your Excellency is respectfully requested to remember that the Disinfecting Plant and Station at Mullet Key was erected with money borrowed on the private and individual pledges of the members of the Board and the State Health Officer, which money had to be returned from the appropriations of succeeding years, and when it is called to your remembrance that but fifty per cent. of the amount provided by the Legislature of 1889 for the special health fund has ever been collected, you will the more readily perceive the embarrassment which has ever confronted the Board in not having sufficient funds to erect needed disinfecting plants at other important ports of the State. I concur in Health Officer Porter's statement that the funds of the Board have been economically administered, and that no money not necessary to carry out the purposes of the Statute has been spent. I have carefully scrutinized all vouchers before affixing my signature of approval, and there has been no expenditures made without due regard to the consideration of efficiency.

While the economical management of the public funds has ever received my careful attention as President of this Board, I have equally considered the necessity for many appliances to properly fulfill the purposes of the Act. The

Board has been conscious that it could not justly expect a protective system against importation of disease without furnishing the executive officer of the Board with the means necessary to afford that protection. As a business proposition it would be as reasonable to expect skillful work from a mechanic without tools. In providing a quarantine tender and patrol boat for the use of the Health Officer during the quarantine season the Board has but carried out the policy instituted at its organization—economy in the careful expenditure of the public funds in all of its departments consistent with that efficiency to realize to the fullest degree the benefits accruing from good health. It is believed that the expense of management of the "Missoe" has been considerably less than that of operating similar boats in other States, and, as contributing to the success of the quarantine system, her continuance in service is essential.

The taxation of the State for health purposes is one and one-half mills on the assessable property of the citizens. It is suggested by the Board that one mill of this amount could be saved to the tax-payer, if the statute creating County Boards of Health is repealed. It is thought that the State Board of Health can, from the one-half mill tax levied for its especial health fund, better acquire statistical and sanitary information, and make use of such knowledge to the benefit of the citizens of the State, through agents showing special interest in health work, appointed in each County. In times of sickness or threatening danger from epidemic diseases, the State Board of Health is looked to by the people, and confidence is inspired by its supervision. The experience of the past three years has not demonstrated that the County Boards have been alive to the demands which the statute creating them imposes, except in a very few instances, and therefore, I believe it would be to the interest of economy and good government, to repeal the law creating them.

The quarantine administration at the several ports in

the State now operated by the County Boards should also be under one head and that head should be the State Board of Health, which is directly charged by the people of the State with the responsibility of preventing the introduction of contagious diseases through the ports, and from which everything is expected in the way of sea coast protection. Under the present division of authority on this subject between the State and County Boards it is difficult, if not impossible, to fulfill this expectation. There would result in this arrangement almost, if not quite, a self-supporting system of quarantine, by using the excess of income in quarantine fees over expenditures at the larger ports to defray the expenses over receipts at the smaller, which are none the less important ports and through which disease can be introduced.

If the measures such as I have briefly touched upon meet with the approval of your Excellency and you will note them to the Legislature, as expressing the views of the members of the State Board of Health on matters, the execution of which they are especially charged, it is thought that the members of the Legislature will give such attention to the requirements of sanitation and health which will result in judicious enactments.

W. B. HENDERSON,
President of the State Board of Health.

HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT.

JACKSONVILLE, FLA., March 22, 1893.

To the Honorable President and Members of the State Board of Health of Florida:

GENTLEMEN:—In submitting the fourth annual report of the Secretary of the State Board of Health of Florida indulgence is asked, first, for reproducing various portions of the last annual report, since the general conditions of sanitation, quarantine, statistics and finance existing last year have not materially changed and the comments then made on the direct relations to the health and financial interests of the State are as applicable now as then and may be again, it is thought, profitably discussed. Secondly, for anticipating this report some weeks in advance of the regular date of the annual meeting, in order that your honorable body may be enabled to present to his Excellency, the Governor, the views of the Board on measures deemed necessary to preserve the health of the commonwealth, so that he may have time to consider any recommendations in his official message to the Legislature, soon to meet in biennial session.

GENERAL HEALTH.

The good health which has prevailed throughout the State for the past three years has been maintained during the past year. There have been rumors of suspicion of contagious disease in several counties, but investigation of the reports failed in every instance to confirm the "hear-says" and except in the case at Port Tampa none of the originators of malicious stories have been detected. In this case investigation led to placing the offender under bonds. At the following session of the Circuit Court he was convicted of the offence and fined. In promptly bring-

ing to justice the traducers of the health of a community, the dignity of the State is upheld and her commercial interests protected. The details of this case are given in the Appendix and is interesting as being the first conviction, under the Statute for making false reports or spreading false rumors concerning the existence of contagious disease in the State.

Cholera was reported in Dade county and at Fernandina, and Yellow Fever in St. Marks, New Smyrna and Tarpon Springs. Prompt investigation was at once instituted on each report, but the result failed to confirm the rumor. Copies of the correspondence in these cases were placed in the hands of the District Attorneys for the several judicial circuits in which these rumors originated, with the request that the facts in evidence be submitted to the several grand juries, with the view of bringing to justice those who had violated the Statute in this regard.

As a provision for the future of general health, a plea has been made to educate the youth of the State in hygiene and sanitation, through the public schools, that thus the future citizen may be prepared to adopt measures to preserve the general health and increase his business interests. It was suggested some months ago to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction that in the curriculum of study in the public and normal schools in the State provision should be made for instruction in hygiene and sanitation. An elementary treatise on this subject, in the form of a catechism of questions and short answers, prepared by Dr. J. F. Edwards of Philadelphia, was thought to be admirably adapted to the mental capacity of the average student. This text book is written in a simple, plain style, but presents an amount of useful knowledge which may induce the more studious and reflecting to pursue the subject deeper. At the suggestion of the State Health Officer a sample copy of this little work was sent by Dr. Edwards to each of the County Superintendents of Public Instruction and a circular letter

was issued by Hon. W. N. Sheats, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, calling attention to the subject and urging the Board of Instruction to adopt it in the course of study prescribed by them, because of its bearing upon the welfare of the future citizen and his happiness and prosperity.

Another method adopted by the Board to increase interest in health matters, and which has been an important work of the Board during the past year, commencing in July last, has been the publication of a little monthly bulletin, styled the "Florida Health Notes." This publication gives monthly the statistical information collected from the counties, together with short articles on popular health subjects, with extracts of interest and value from standard journals and pamphlets on hygiene and sanitation. The aim has been to keep the protection of human life from disease prominently before the people of the State—thus in touch, as it were, with the daily work of the Board.

DIPHTHERIA.

Although more general in its distribution than last year, it is believed that Diphtheria had no local focus in the State, but that in every instance it was imported from neighboring States. Only isolated cases occurred and no general prevalence, or anything approaching an epidemic in character.

TYPHOID FEVER.

From sanitary reports received it is learned that Typhoid Fever has caused 133 deaths during the year. As remarked in the third annual report, when writingon this subject, the belief is firmly expressed "that with the bettering of the hygiene and sanitary systems of the towns in the State, particularly of the larger cities, by instituting sewerage and sub-soil drainage, the abolishment of tanks for potable water storage, Typhoid Fever will notably decrease in prevalence in Florida, for it has already been noted that a better health prevails than formerly in those places in the

State where artesian water from great depth is freely used for domestic purposes, and sewerage has taken the place of the midden and bucket system." During the year the water, plumbing and sewerage system of the larger hotels at St. Augustine and Tampa (which were last year maligned by correspondents of some of the Northern press in this respect) have been thoroughly examined by expert sanitary engineers, who report that nothing defective in the sewerage systems of these structures have been found, and the cases of fever occuring last year cannot be attributed to defects therein.

In November, 1892, the following correspondence was had with the Duval County Board of Health, on the subject of the condition of the pavements of certain streets in the city of Jacksonville:

GENTLEMEN:—I desire to invite your attention to the condition of the cypress block pavement on Bay street in the city of Jacksonville, and to portions of the side streets leading into it. It is scarcely necessary to point out to you, as health officials, why the block pavement of Bay street is dangerous to life and health, and productive of disease; the facts and reasons are apparent without entering into any discussion. The possibilities of disease in the coming year, particularly Cholera, are viewed with decided apprehension by sanitarians throughout the country, and the warning is being continually and continuously made to protect the public health, and to place cities and towns in the best hygienic and sanitary condition."

"I would suggest to you that this matter of the Bay street pavement be brought to the immediate attention of the City Council of Jacksonville, and that the Council's attention be invited to the provisions of Section 12 of the Act creating the State Board of Health, which makes it the duty of the State Health Officer "to condemn in any of the said cities or towns any sidewalks, pavements, buildings, wharves or other things that, in his judgment, shall be likely to produce or cause the spread of epidemic disease," etc., etc. .This duty the State Health Officer would prefer to avoid the execution of, if possible, and trusts that it may be only necessary to invite, through your Board, the atten-

tion of the City Council of Jacksonville to the necessity of removing the sanitary nuisance above complained of, to have the same properly attended to."

Although at the date of this writing the condition of Bay street, Jacksonville, remains a menace to the public health, it is a pleasure to state that an ordinance has been passed by the City Council and steps taken to at once repave the street in question with vitrified brick.

On February 4th, 1893, a communication was addressed by the State Health Officer to the Mayor of the city of Tampa, urging action by the Council of that city upon the vital question of the sanitary disposal of the domestic wastes, saying:

"It has seemed proper to me that your attention should be called to the necessity for providing the city of Tampa with an adequate system of sewage disposal, by properly constructed sewers. It is not possible, as much as it might be desired, to construct such a system before the advent of the hot summer months, but it is within the province of your City Council to provide by ordinance for obtaining the advice of a competent sanitary engineer on the subject and then to adopt a system which will meet not only the present requirements of the city but will prepare for its future enlargement and growth. Your city has long since outgrown the benefits of a pail system, that which you now use, and to further postpone the consideration of this most necessary sanitary provision will be to imperil the health of your community in the future and to seriously reflect upon the intelligence and public spirit of your citizens."

The Mayor, the Hon. Herman Glogowski, seconded and endorsed this letter in an able message to the City Council, and it is gratifying to state that immediate steps were taken by inviting Col. George E. Waring, a sanitary engineer of national reputation, to visit Tampa, draw plans and prepare specifications for a system of sewerage, and by appropriating funds at once to carry into execution this excellent desire to improve the health of the city and to lessen the agencies of disease.

CONSUMPTION.

According to the tabulated reports for the year, consumption has caused 303 deaths. An attempt has been made to separate the residents from the non-residents of the State dying of this disease, and requests were made to the City and County Health Authorities to report deaths separately. The State Board of Health has prescribed a separate record in their tabulation. As a partial result of this movement twenty-eight counties out of forty-five report 86 native Floridians, 130 from other States of the Union, 34 from Cuba, 26 from other foreign counties and 36 unknown. Fifty-six of the decedents were in the State less than two years and only thirty-six are reported as life residents. This tabulation for the present, on account of the short period commenced, is necessarily imperfect, as it does not embrace reports from all the counties in the State. It is given merely as a pointer; but it is believed that when this discrimination in vital statistics is fully observed the State will show a less percentage of death rate from this cause among her native population of any State in the Union.

The deaths from all causes were 3,241, in a reported population of 297,071. At the same ratio, estimating the death rate of counties not reporting, the total number of deaths from all causes during the year would probably number about 4,324. The death rate per thousand of population for the year 1892, from reports received, has been 13.86; June being the largest (15.22) and December the smallest (11.03) death rate per thousand of population.

SMALL POX.

But one case of small pox has been reported to the Board during the year, although the disease has been very generally prevalent throughout the Union. It is believed that the repeated injunctions of the State Board to the County Health Authorities, and the warnings on this subject, have had the effect to arouse the public generally to

appreciate the benefit of vaccination, and the large number of vaccine points that have been distributed and used, some sixteen thousand, has contributed to the State's protection from this disease. An individual came from New York and was taken sick en route. In the Appendix will be found a detailed report of this case.

VACCINATION.

Unremitting exertion has been made during the past year to incite the health authorities, and the public in general, of the State to the importance of vaccination and the protection thereby afforded against Small Pox. Superintendents of Public Instruction of the different County Boards have been communicated with as has been also the State Superintendent, and every effort has been made to induce that attention to the subject its importance demands; especially by protecting children in the public schools where large numbers are collected, as well as in the factories in the mannfacturing towns. Danger from the spread of this disease being principally confined to the collection of individuals in numbers and in their contact with each other.

YELLOW FEVER.

Although this disease has been at the very portals of the State yet the vigilance of the State Health Authorities has prevented its entrance. On the 3d of August, the American four-masted schooner, "Eva B. Douglas," Captain J. C. Letts, four days from Havana, Cuba, and bound for Punta Gorda, Florida, arrived off the Mullet Key Quarantine Station. At Havana the schooner lay at the Taliapiedra wharf (a badly infected locality), and sent three men to the Hospital with Yellow Fever. The day following her arrival at the Quarantine Station the schooner was disinfected and fumigated and all clothing and bedding was subjected to the steam disinfecting process. She had no ballast. The vessel was then anchored in the Bay and placed under observation. On the 6th instant the Captain

developed a case of Yellow Fever. The State Health Officer arrived at the Station the same afternoon on the "Missoe" and confirmed the diagnosis of the medical officer in charge of the Station. The first mate was ordered to take the schooner to the United States Quarantine and Refuge Station at Dry Tortugas and was expected to leave early the next morning. In order to be as humane as possible Capt. Bahrt, assistant at Mullet Key Station, an experienced Yellow Fever nurse, was detailed to accompany the vessel to Tortugas and act as nurse to the sick man. However, during the night the mate and two seamen were attacked with the disease and it was impossible then to get the ship to Tortugas without the aid of a large tugboat and there was none nearer than Pensacola. Having done everything practicable to humanely get rid of the vessel and having failed, the "Douglas" was anchored five miles to leeward of the station and out of the way of passing craft. As the crew had all evidently been inoculated with the poison in Havana and were being seized one after another in rapid succession, the sick were treated on board. The entire crew were prostrated with the disease within the next few days, with the exception of the second mate, steward and a negro shipped in Havana. These three having previously had the disease. The attack of the Captain was violent and he died on the morning of the 11th in uræmic convulsions. He was buried on Anna Maria Key. The majority of the crew convalesced rapidly after slight attacks. After the occurrence of the last case the vessel was again fumigated and disinfected; mattresses, carpets and curtains were destroyed by burning and the clothing of the crew disinfected by superheated steam. After undergoing ten days observation she was given pratique and sailed for Philadelphia, her owners cancelling her charter for Punta Gorda.

The Brig "Caspian," for Apalachicola, Fla., five days from Havana, arrived off the United States quarantine sta-

tion at Dry Tortugas on the evening of July 25th. On the 26th the vessel entered the harbor and was treated to preliminary fumigation. On the evening of the 27th the surgeon in charge of the station reports the Captain died of "heart failure." On the 28th a seaman was discovered sick with Yellow Fever. This case was seen by the State Health Officer of Florida, who visited this station in the "Missoe," and the diagnosis of Passed Assistant Surgeon H. D. Geddings, U. S. M. H. S., commanding the station, was concurred in. The "Caspian" was ashore three days at the Marquesas on her passage from Havana and was assisted in getting off by fishing smacks. Touching at Key West she was directed to Tortugas by Health Officer Sweeting, of the Monroe County Board of Health. On August 11th the engineer of the "Dagmar," the tender to this Station, was prostrated with the disease. On August 27th Captain Harding and the fireman of the "Dagmar" were attacked. On September 14th another case of Yellow Fever was reported, an attache of the Station. On the appearance of the fever on the "Caspian" and "Dagmar" the State Health Officer quarantined against the Dry Tortugas, notifying each port Sanitary Inspector and County Board of Health of the fact.

LEPROSY.

There has been no case of Leprosy reported to the Board during the past year. The case noted in the last annual report as occurring at Key West, ended fatally in a few months. Strict attention is paid to immigration, both by the State and United States Inspectors at the ports of the States and the danger of the instroduction of this disease is thereby lessened, if not absolutely prevented.

CHOLERA.

The continued spread of cholera in Russia, the extension of the disease to Hamburg and thence to the New

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York Quarantine, and later on the outbreak in New York City gave rise to alarm throughout the Union, in which the State of Florida shared. Various suggestions were made to the Board and to the State Health Officer as to what was thought to be necessary to prevent its introduetion to the State, and the condition of affairs in New York at one time seemed critical. The States to the North adopted and placed, or attempted to place, stringent surveillance on travel. Regulations interdicting commercial intercourse with New York were adopted one day to be revoked the next, and great confusion resulted. While the Health Authorities of Florida were mindful of the gravity of the situation should cholera materially increase in New York City, and were watchful of its daily progress, they discouraged any manifestation of alarm on the part of the citizens of the State, assuring them that everything necessary to protect their health would be done at the proper time by the Board; and it is believed that the confidence exhibited by the Board in its own powers served to quiet the apprehension of a great many nervous and panicky people and to restore that trust which insures faith in the Health Authorities to successfully cope with such emergencies and prevents interruption to commercial interests. The State Health Officer issued a circular to the County Boards of Health and to the public advising composure and as to the measures to be adopted when necessary, which, it is believed, did much to allay apprehension.

MEETINGS.

In addition to the annual meeting held on May 2d, there were two meetings of the Board during the year: July 14th at Tampa to approve rules and regulations of County Boards of Health, which, in the opinion of the Attorneys of the Board, was necessary before said rules could be legally effective. At this meeting the advisability of having a uniform code of rules and regulations for domestic sanitation for all the counties was made apparent and the

State Health Officer was directed to formulate such rules and present them at the next meeting. On September 17th a meeting was called to consider measures necessary to be taken to prevent the possible introduction of cholera into the State of Florida, at which time rules and regulations were formulated and adopted for inter-State Quarantine to be operative whenever in the opinion of the State Health Officer they should be deemed necessary. These rules and regulations are given in the Appendix.

VITAL STATISTICS.

On this subject it is not proposed to dwell longer than to refer to the very detailed statement contained in the third annual report of the State Health Officer. The circumstances attending the difficulties experienced in the collection of Vital Statistics of the State, occuring in the year 1891, were present in the year 1892. It is true that ten more counties were added to those making monthly reports, but at the same time, there never were on an average more than twenty-seven counties reporting each month. It is impossible to value the collection of Vital Statistics in dollars and cents, because of the light they shed and the influence that they thus have in inducing immigration and increasing the prosperity of the State, which, it is believed, will be in the future incomputable. As stated in last years report "Florida hopes to invite immigration, and in order to draw a desirable class from outside the State, clear, reliable, and intelligent statistical data is required, and when obtained, will be a sure guide to attract the best class of immigrants. This class we invite by our genial climate and by the varied resources of industry and wealth now opening up, but if we would hold out inducements to the dweller of the extreme North, or to the inhabitants of the Middle States, to adopt Florida as a home, it is but just that the fullest evidence of its highest degree of healthfulness is furnished, as well as other information dealing with sanitary matters." But, as we also stated in that report, "Better

results cannot be expected unless the recommendations made in the past two annual reports is approved of and adopted. When the State Board of Health relieves the County Boards of Health of the duty of collecting vital statistical data, and appoints and pays intelligent inspectors in each county, men appointed for special fitness and earnest interest in this work, then, and then only, can reliable and regular reports be had. The expense which this system would incur would be the investment of so much money, which will double itself many times over in the near future, by inviting immigration of a substantial nature, and as an expenditure will be insignificent to the immense benefit to the people of the State in acquiring knowledge of the causes which produce disease and the necessary measures to be secured to prevent the same." It is not to be expected that these statistics can be of any great value under five or ten years. It is by comparison of the data of a number of years that the life wave of a community is estimated; its increase or its decrease, and the few statistics that the State Board of Health has as yet been able to collect is but a nucleus from which it is hoped that great good will spring in years to come, and will be valuable to the vital statistician of Florida, in comparing the life data of the State and the causes that lead to its healthfulness or mortality.

QUARANTINE SERVICE.

This protective system of the State against invasion by disease from foreign shores, has during the past year claimed the major portion of the attention of the State Health Officer, and especially has unremitting care been bestowed upon it during the active quarantine season, namely: between the months of May and November. It is gratifying to observe that when the late discussion on quarantine subjects engrossed the attention of Congress, Florida received encomiums on her maritime rules and regulations and the practical appliances for destroying disease germs which have been procured and placed in opera-

tion at her principal quarantine stations. This evidence of approbation from distinguished men is convincing that the policy of the State Board of Health on Maritime Sanitation, which has been successfully practiced for the past three years, has been an efficient means of protecting the health of the commonwealth, and, at the same time, conserving her commercial interests. The Mullet Key Quarantine Station, at the entrance to Tampa Bay, was in active operation from May to November, during which time 240 vessels arrived and were inspected, released or detained for discharge of ballast and disinfection; 8,317 passengers and seamen belonging to these vessels were examined, passed without detention, or kept for observation for a period ranging from five to fifteen days, as provided for in the rules and regulations. The fact of the crew of the Yellow Fever schooner "Eva B. Douglas" being treated off the Quarantine Station named, and that no case of sickness invaded the Station or was communicated to the State, is congratulatory evidence of the ability of the State Board of Health to manage successfully emergencies of this kind, and should give confidence to the public as to the vigilance of the officials and the means under the control of the Board necessary to accomplish these ends. That Yellow Fever was not communicated from the United States Quarantine Station at Dry Tortugas to Key West, its nearest port, is due to the care and prudence exercised by Dr. C. B. Sweeting, the Port Sanitary Inspector of the Monroe County Board of Health, at Key West, who restricted all communication with Tortugas to the minimum; compelling the tender "Dagmar" to anchor a sufficient distance from the town and superintending in person the conveying of all stores and nails to her from the city of Key West. The fees collected at the Mullet Key Quarantine Station amounted to $4,474.25 and $4,117.71 was expended in operating the plant. This does not include $9,381.66, the cost of the ballast crib, which is viewed as a permanent

investment. A physician in charge and six men operated the plant. It is a pleasure to testify to the zeal and efficient management of the Station by Dr. D. M. Echemendia, the Medical Sanitary Inspector, who has ever been careful in his attention to the details of the work and conscientious in compelling obedience to the Maritime Regulations of the Board. Experiments were conducted at this Station in the matter of steam disinfection of different classes of clothing and merchandise as well as letters and mail matter. Examination of tables published elsewhere will show the increase in arrivals at this Station during 1892 over 1891. It will be appreciated that each year the growth of commercial industry at Port Tampa and Charlotte Harbor and the increase in exports by transportation chartered in foreign infected ports will demand from this Station more and more work and the constant exercise of careful surveillance and supervision over vessels from these ports, especially from the ports of Cuba, so near to us.

The Ballast Crib, mention of which was made in the last annual report as having been ordered built for this Station, was completed in August and has been of great convenience in the discharge of the ballast of those vessels suspicious as to their ports of departure or for continuous service in tropical seas. The cost of this crib was $9,381.66. It is constructed of creosoted pine piling, with yellow pine decking and spring fender piling to protect the main structure, with an approach to the shore, on which a tramway is placed to facilitate the discharge of infected or suspicious ballast and the re-ballasting with clean sand ballast from the shore.

PATROL BOAT.

The quarantine patrol boat "Missoe" did efficient service during the summer just passed. In fact, it is not known how the infected schooner "Douglas" could have been successfully managed without some such means of transportation as was afforded by this boat, and the State

Health Officer considers that to meet emergencies of this nature, which are likely to arise each season, a tender, such as this boat is designed for, is an absolute necessity and cannot be dispensed with without seriously crippling the quarantine service. In this connection attention is called to the third annual report in regard to the purchase and repairs to the "Missoe," where the subject is dealt with in detail.

BOARDING STATION AT BOCA GRANDE.

The Boarding Station recommended to be built in the last annual report was completed and opened in August, and maintained to the close of the quarantine season. Under a concession from the United States Lighthouse Board, the State Board of Health erected on Gasparilla Island, at the mouth of Charlotte Harbor, at a point known as Boca Grande Pass, a plain, but substantial and comfortable dwelling, where an inspector of the State Board of Health resides during the active quarantine season and inspects all vessels which arrive for the port of Punta Gorda (now a port of entry) and directs all those directly or indirectly from foreign or domestic infected or suspicious ports to the Mullet Key Quarantine Station for fumigation and disinfection. The force at this station during the quarantine season consists of a physician in charge, a boatman and cook. The cost of constructing and furnishing the station was $1,544.84 and the annual expense is estimated to be $2,040.00.

SARASOTA.

A small house for the convenience of the State Board's Inspector was built at Sarasota at a cost of $102. The inspector there is an intelligent layman who lives continously during the quarantine season at this point, where he is enabled to keep supervision over several little passes or entrances from the Gulf into the inland waters between Sarasota and Tampa Bay.

ANCLOTE KEY.

Accommodation similar to that erected at Sarasota will

be necessary during the coming quarantine season at Anclote Keys, forty miles north of the Mullet Key Quarantine Station. There is a safe anchorage here and it is a favorite refuge in squally and bad weather for Spanish smacks during the summer season. It is known that at such periods frequent communication is had with the shore; indeed, the State Health Officer, while cruising on the steamer, "Missoe," last season, ran upon some sixteen of these craft and intercepted a small boat from the shore, having communication with one of these interdicted strangers. The small boat and men were kept under arrest for a short time when they were reprimanded and released, but the facts in the case with the names of the men and boat were reported to the Secretary of the Treasury through the Collector of Customs at Tampa.

UNBALLASTING VESSELS.

The attention of the Board is here directed to a class of vessels arriving at the Mullet Key Quarantine Station during the past summer from the Windward Islands. They belong to an order of marine architecture not generally met with in this advanced age of shipbuilding. I refer to the French and English iron ships, very deep and sharp, whose ability to maintain an upright position depends upon the large amount of ballast that is carried. These vessels, the "Mindin," "Marie Eugenie," "King Alfred" and "Chittagong" arrived at the Mullet Rey Quarantine Station on the 12th, 14th, 19th and 28th of September respectively, destined for Punta Gorda, and when ordered to unballast, the captains informed the officer in charge of the station that it would be impossible for them to comply with the demand, as with ballast out their ships would turn over, and they positively refused to make the attempt. The matter having finally been referred to the President of the Board it was ordered by him to make such disinfection as was possible, and then allow the vessels to proceed to their destination, the season being so far advanced as to render

it improbable that any danger would result from permitting the discharge of this ballast in Charlotte Harbor. It is desired that the regulations relating to ballast, and the character and discharge of the same, be amended so that in the future there may be no clashing between shipmasters and the executive of the Board. It was suggested that with topmasts down and used as ballast logs that this difficulty could be overcome, but on thorough investigation it was found that, without great risk to the vessels (which the masters did not care to assume, or the State Health Officer feel inclined to insist upon), the only thing that could be done was to shift the ballast in the holds of the vessels and make such disinfection and purification as circumstances permitted. The ballast was thoroughly soaked with bichloride of mercury and, the vessels being iron, it was not thought that there was any great danger in allowing them to proceed to Boca Grande Pass, where they proposed to take in phosphate. Some detention of the vessels at the Station occurred, occasioned by the delay in correspondence back and forth, and in the endeavor of the State Health Officer to have the rules and regulations of the Board carried out. It is suggested that discretionary authority might safely be vested in the State Health Officer for emergencies of this nature.

OFFICE WORK.

As is to be expected the work of the office of the Board has steadily increased from the date of its organization. At the end of the first year of the Board's existence the correspondence, letters received and written, amounted to 2,603, in '90 the number was 3,153, in '91 it was 3,372, and during the past year to date there have been 1,746 written and 1,417 received, a total of 3,163. In this the fourth year of the Board's existence the office work in various sections has quadrupled that of the first year. Much information has been disseminated by circulars, and a great many inquiries have been replied to, furnishing information

to seekers after various kinds of sanitary knowledge of the State. As has already been referred to, an important work of the Board during the past year has been the publication of a monthly bulletin containing tabulated tables of vital statistics, with original articles on sanitary matters from the office of the Board and various correspondents; likewise valuable extracts from standard sanitary periodicals. From the flattering communications that the Board has received in regard to this publication it feels assured that its work in this direction has been appreciated, and has been of incalculable value in stimulating public sentiment to the necessity of hygiene and its requirements, and also in circulating useful information in regard to the health of the State. The bulk of this work has been done with but one assistant, Mr. Frank B. Matthews, who, as Clerk of the Board, has taken complete charge of the routine work of the office. His urbanity and obliging disposition has won friends to the cause of sanitation and to the Board, from those who have paid official or social visits to the office, and his earnestness and especial fitness for the work, rendered so by a study of its requirements, careful attention to detail and conscientious discharge of duty has enabled the executive officer of the Board to bestow more personal attention and watchfulness on the ports of the State and to the prevention of contagious disease threatening introduction from foreign countries. Without capable assistants, clerical as well as port inspectors, much embarrassment must necessarily follow in the execution of the laws or regulations, therefore, it is gratifying to state that the employes of the Board are intelligent, faithful and competent officials, alive to the requirements of duty, with an ardent desire to discharge them to the best of their ability.

NATIONAL LEGISLATION.

The spread of Cholera in the Russian Empire, and its transmission to Hamburg in the early summer, gave rise to much alarm on this side of the Atlantic, lest the dread

scourge should obtain a foothold on this continent, and when a steamer from Hamburg arrived at the New York, quarantine, pest ladened, having had several cases and deaths en route, the danger to this country was fully realized, and immediate steps were taken by the quarantine health officials in New York to make ample provisions for the arrival of immigrants and other passengers, both well and sick, so that the former could be kept under observation and have necessary attention paid to the disinfection of baggage, as was demanded, and the later isolated and properly cared for. The United States Treasury Department, through the Marine Hospital Service, and the Governor of the State of New York, by liberal purchase of sites, aided the quarantine officials of New York city, and the immense danger to which New York and the Union seemed at one time threatened, was happily averted. An enormous strain was put upon the appliances of quarantine at New York, besides, a grave responsibility was thrown upon the officials. It is believed, however, that the work was carefully attended to and the conditions were ably controlled, notwithstanding that cases of Cholera developed subsequently in New York city. The Board of Health of New York city, by its thoroughly organized and equipped corps, were also equal to the emergency, and promptly isolated cases and checked the spread and there was no epidemic of the disease. The whole country was thoroughly alarmed, and the fright which in a measure was restrained by confidence reposed in the health authorities, needed but very little stimulation to result in a panic. Petitions from Boards of Health and Chambers of Commerce, and other commercial circles, to the President of the United States, urged him in the exercise of his prerogative to suspend immigration from foreign countries, which he did in a proclamation issued September 1, 1892. On the assembling of Congress in December, several bills were introduced to restrict immigration, or to suspend it entirely for a year, and to establish a National

Quarantine System. Representative Stump, of Maryland, Chairman of the Immigration Committee in the House, and Senator Harris, Chairman of the Public Health Committee in the Senate, were particulary active in behalf of these measures. During the recess of the Christmas holidays, a joint Committee of both Senate and House, composed of Senators Proctor (chairman of the Committee), Dubois, Call, Squire and Gibson, and Representatives Stump, Covert, Coburn and Wright, visited Cuba investigating matters relating to immigration and quarantine. They were met at Key West by the State Health Officer, and upon the urgent request and invitation of the Chairman, Hon. Redfield Proctor, that official accompanied the Committee to Havana and back to Port Tampa. A short stop was made at the Mullet Key Quarantine Station, and the disinfecting plant of the State was exhibited and explained in its workings to the members of the Committee. The Committee were courteously treated while in Havana by Consul General Williams, Dr. Burgess, the very efficient Sanitary Officer of the United States Government, attached to the consulate there, and by the Spanish officials of the Superior Board of Health of the Island of Cuba. From Dr. Burgess and this latter organization much valuable information was gained of a sanitary nature, both as relating to Cuban and Spanish health preventive measures against importable contagious diseases and as to measures necessary to protect the United States from foreign invasion of this nature. Aside from the social features connected with an association with this committee of several days, which was most pleasant and greatly enjoyed, the State Health Officer was enabled in a business way to impress the gentlemen with the necessity of government aid in the coast protection of Florida by a thoroughly organized coast patrol, the expense of which would be too great to be borne by the State. The Committee expressed itself as greatly pleased with the Rules and Regulations of the State Board of

Health of Florida, and the complimentary remarks about health protection by Florida, made in the Senate by Senator Squire and others, would seem to indicate that the Committee were favorably impressed with the work of the Florida Board of Health. The testimony of the State Health Officer, of Dr. Burgess, and of several citizens of Key West, on quarantine matters is given in the Appendix and will be found interesting.

The National Quarantine Act, championed by Senator Harris, met with active opposition, which came from the exponents of the tenets of the Constitution, and also from the State Boards of Health of the Atlantic and Gulf coasts, whose very excellent administration of health and sanitary affairs of their respective States, in the past, made them exceedingly unwilling to acknowledge that the administration can be in any manner bettered by being placed under Federal supervision. The State Health Officer of Florida was importuned to protest against the passage of any National control by Congress; but he refrained from taking an active part in the discussion of the matter, preferring to leave the representatives of the State in Congress uninfluenced by suggestions from him, as from what he could learn from conversations with representative citizens and from the utterances of the press of the State, the sentiment of the people seemed largely to be in favor of turning over the management of the State Quarantine to the General Government. No doubt this feeling was influenced largely by the expense which a State Quarantine entails upon the tax-payers. It is believed that no fault is found, or can be found, with the State Health Officials, nor can it be charged that they have not administered the management economically, justly and efficiently. All of this is conceded. The revenue, however, derived from shipping, in the matter of disinfection and quarantine detention, has not fully reimbursed the State for the expense of maintaining the stations, and the burden—if it can be considered a burden—of this

absolutely necessary supervision of the health of the State through the ports has fallen partly upon the tax-payers.

An argument advanced by the friends of the bill for National control of quarantine is that the commerce of the country will be relieved thereby, of an unjust tax in the matter of fees for disinfection and cleansing of vessels from foreign infected ports. In other words that the purification necessary should be done free, and this the Harris Bill proposed to do. Attention is invited to the fact that nine tenths of the commerce of this country from foreign ports which menace our health, is carried on in foreign vessels—that is to say, vessels owned either in whole or in part by-foreign ship owners, and who seek our ports for their own benefit. The General Government does not admit these vessels free to entry in our custom houses. Why then should the people of these United States be called upon to pay for protection against importation of disease from foreign sources and by foreign carriers? In other words, why should a German, Italian or Spanish ship or Cuban smack, with Cholera, Yellow Fever or Small Pox patients on board, or infected with these diseases, be cared for as to their passengers, and disinfected and purified as to each at the expense of this Government? No other Nation accords such privileges to foreign vessels, and in the National control of quarantine the State Health Officer enters his protest against free disinfection of foreign shipping.

Having given much thought to the subject the executive officer of this Board would strongly urge the appointment of a Secretary of Health in the President's Cabinet, who, acting through the State Boards of Health, can advise, counsel and distribute sanitary information and useful hygienic knowledge. Congress could and should annually appropriate a sum of money to assist in preventing the introduction of epidemic diseases into the United States, and to aid in suppressing any that may arise. This fund should be distributed through the Cabinet Officer to the State

Boards, according to the necessities or requirements of each, and the financial ability of each to help itself. This money could be accounted for by detailed statements of expenditures to the proper auditing officers of the Government. But the administration should be left entirely to the State Boards. The General Government aids in some such way the militia of the States by supplying annually a certain amount of arms and ammunition and tents, therefore, in the same manner, it could aid in protecting the public health. It is believed that a system of national supervision, such as is roughly outlined in the above suggestion, would meet all the demands for a National Quarantine that is called for under our form of government.

The original bill for National Quarantine Control, introduced in the last session of the United States Congress, received much attention and drew forth much criticism, and when the measure was finally passed it was found to be divested of many important features, the supposed necessity for which public sentiment had suggested this Federal health supervision. The Supervising Surgeon General of the Marine Hospital Service, is charged, under the Treasury Department, with the executive portions of the Act, and immediately upon the approval of the same by the President a board was convened which formulated and published regulations for inspection at foreign ports, of vessels, their crews and passengers, and also for their detention when necessary, if bound for any port in the United States. Later, by direction of the Secretary of the Treasury, a conference was called with the Supervising Surgeon General, of the health officials of the Atlantic and Gulf Coast States to consider necessary measures of Maritime Sanitation and Quarantine to protect the ports of the United States against the introduction of contagious disease. This Conference, invited by the following telegram, was called for the 16th and 17th instant:

"You are hereby invited to a conference with myself

in Washington, March 16th and 17th, with a view to uniformity of rules and regulations of quarantine on the Atlantic and Gulf coasts. Sixteen other representatives invited. Traveling expenses to be met by the conferees. Please wire reply. By authority of the Secretary of the Treasury." (Signed)

WALTER WYMAN.

Supervising Surgeon-General, M. H. S.

The propriety of attendance being left by the President of this Board to the judgment of the State Health Officer, he considered the interests of Florida in such a meeting were of sufficient gravity to have representation and the invitation was accepted.

There were present at this conference Drs. Durgin, Port Physician of Boston, Mass.; Fraser, of Providence, R. I.; Frank Wright, Health Officer, New Haven, Conn.; Clark Hunt, of the State Board of Health of New Jersey; Benjamin Lee, Secretary of the State Board of Health of Pennsylvania; W. C. Curtis, Quarantine Officer, Wilmington, Del.; James P. McShane, Commissioner of Health, Baltimore, Md.; Wm. A. Thompson, Quarantine Officer at Norfolk, Va.; Willard Springer, Health Officer, Wilmington, N. C.; H. B. Horlbeck, Health Officer, Charleston, S. C. · W. H. Brunner, Health Officer at Savannah, Ga.; S. R. Olliphant, President State Board of Health of Louisiana; R. M. Swearengen, State Health Officer of Texas; Major Moses Veale, Health Officer of Philadelphia; and the State Health Officer of Florida.

At the opening of the Conference, the Supervising Surgeon General, as chairman, announced the purpose of the same, stating that the views, opinions, and suggestions, which were asked for from those invited, on certain regulations which he had prepared and would submit, would receive careful attention, and due consideration would be paid to the commercial interests and necessities of the several sections of the country, yet it was not promised that

any of the transactions of the Conference would be binding in the subsequent formulation and promulgation of regulations for domestic quarantine observance at ports in the United States. The debate of measures thought necessary to protect the public health were in the nature of advisory suggestions, and covered a wide range of subjects; the contagious quarantinable diseases receiving prominent attention. When the subject of Yellow Fever was reached, objections were made by the State Health Officer of Florida to the general regulations of detention of five days at the port of arrival, of all classes of vessels, from ports infected with the disease. He stated that under certain restrictions of construction, time of entering and remaining in the harbor of Havana, class of passengers transported, and disinfection of baggage, such as is now prescribed by the regulations of the State Board of Health of Florida, he thought communication with Cuba could be safely permitted during the summer months, and therefore he moved to substitute the regulations of the State Board of Health of Florida. As was expected, this suggestion brought forth much discussion, in which the representatives from Louisiana and Texas forcibly opposed the suggestion, but the following was offered in a formal motion by the State Health Officer of Florida, and was adopted:

"Communication without detention at ports of arrival may be had with Havana at all seasons of the year, provided that the ships be of iron, of special construction and under special requirements hereinafter provided for by the United States Marine Hospital Surgeon-General and that the vessels comply with the regulations as prescribed by the United States Quarantine laws requiring disinfection abroad and that the baggage and all articles capable of conveying infection be disinfected according to United States quarantine rules at port of arrival. *Provided*, further, that no bedding nor household effects be allowed at any time and that none but immune persons be allowed as passengers or crew from May 1st to November first."

*2 sbh 16pp

The Chairman appointed as a committee to formulate the conditions of communication with Havana, as set forth in the above motion, the State Health Officer of Florida, Dr. Horlbeck and Dr. Olliphant. The Conference was harmonious in its transactions and it is believed much general good will result from the interchange of views and opinions there had and from the feeling of closer relationship which a meeting of this nature begets. It is complimentary to Florida to note that of the two committees appointed during the Conference she was honored with the chairmanship of both.

INTERNATIONAL QUARANTINE INSPECTION COMMISSION.

A Commission from the Executive Committee of the National Conference of Boards of Health, represented by Dr. J. N. McCormack, of Kentucky, Dr. H. B. Baker of Michigan, Dr. P. H. Bryce of Ontario, Dr. I. A. Watson of New Hampshire, Dr. J. R. Laine of California, and Dr. Orvananas of Mexico, commenced on August 31st an inspecting tour of the quarantine systems as practiced on the Atlantic and Gulf coasts.

It was proposed to continue these investigations through the Gulf and up the Pacific coast, but upon the appearance of Cholera in New York city it was thought best to defer further inspections for a few weeks, as each member of the Commission was connected either as an executive or member of some health organization of his State, and the uneasiness of the public generally demanded their immediate presence at home. From press notices of interviews with these distinguished sanitarians, it is learned that much dissatisfaction and disappointment is expressed at the inefficient appointments of the quarantine stations as far as visited—Delaware Breakwater. The paucity of properly constructed disinfecting plants for superheated steam disinfection and sulphur dioxide fumigation, or the total want of these necessary disease-destructive agents were apparent at the stations visited and were commented upon. This is to be

wondered at when it is considered that the portion of the Atlantic coast visited by these scientists embraces what has generally been considered to be the section of the United States noted for wealth, public spirit and a generous lavishment of funds, wherever necessary for scientific or sanitary purposes. It is to be hoped that Dr. McCormack and his confreres will resume their inspections before making any report, at least until they have visited Charleston, S. C., Mullet Key and Pensacola, Florida; Mobile and New Orleans, where they will find quarantine stations so well equipped, there will be no occasion given to complain, but rather to commend.

STATE LEGISLATION.

It is believed that several of the Statutes in regard to Public Health should be repealed, and the Act creating the State Board of Health could be improved in many particulars; but a great difficulty attending the amendment of any law lies in the many changes proposed when the attempt is made to alter and the liability to a mistaken change in the purposes of the measure and perhaps the defeat of the very purpose of remedy for which the amendment was thought necessary. At the session of the Legislature in 1891, measures were recommended for the collection of vital statistics in several counties and for the formation of a State Bureau of Vital Statistics; also to perfect the requirements of the quarantine system of the State and for direct sanitary supervision by the State Board of Health in the abatement of those agencies, which produce or are likely to cause disease in the towns of the State, and bills drawn for this purpose were offered. In the heat of a struggle over the election of a Senator, these measures, with other necessary ones, were subordinated and lost sight of. It is to be hoped that at the coming session, sanitation and measures necessary to make "life worth living" comfortably, profitably and pleasurably, may receive their just share of attention. The Legislature need only to seriously consider them to be

convinced of the defects in the present laws and to have them remedied by needful legislation.

The distinguished colleague of the executive officer of the State Board of Health, and an able advocate of sanitation, Dr. R. P. Daniel, when writing last year, from the chair of presiding officer of the State Board of Health, strongly recommended the repeal of the statute for County Boards of Health, saying: "I believe it would promote the financial as well as sanitary interests of the people of the State to abolish the County Boards of Health entirely and to legally authorize the State Board to appoint and pay such local health inspectors as might appear needful. Certainly this is the only method by which any data can be collected, sufficiently full and reliable, to possess value in formulating vital statistic returns for our State, and such statistics, if comprehensive and exact, would, without doubt, demonstrate the healthfulness of Florida, and indirectly promote her interests, and materially aid in her development." In this the State Health Officer concurs. He has faithfully tried, first, to interest the County Commissioners and people, to recommend suitable persons to the Governor for appointment on County Boards of Health, and secondly, has persistently urged organization and action, after appointment; to make reliable the vital statistics of the State by careful and accurate compilation of a life and death enumeration. The efforts in this direction have not met with the success that the Board expected. A few City and County Boards of Health have made a determined fight against dirt and disease, and for a better collection of life data, but a larger number of the counties have been apathetic and indifferent to this subject, as is evidenced by only twenly-eight monthly sanitary returns, of the forty-five counties in the State, and this number has never reported regularly; so it would seem that it would result in a more efficient administration and attain results more satisfactory and reliable to repeal the law of County Boards of Health and charge the

State Board directly with the management of sanitation, collection of vital statistics and other matters of health supervision. No extra expense would be incurred in this new proposed *regime;* nor is an extra appropriation asked for, for it is believed that the work can be accomplished by the State Board from the levy now authorized to be collected for the State Board of Health's maintenance and especial fund. On the score of economy it is suggested to turn the State's quarantine system over to the General Government for management under the Treasury Department. Under the present National Quarantine Act this procedure is not practicable nor is it advisable. It is believed by those who have bestowed thought on the subject that local officers, having knowledge of the interests of the people and directly concerned in the protection afforded, besides having thorough acquaintance with the necessary requirements to conserve the health of the port of arrival and at the same time protect the commerce, will more efficiently discharge the obligation imposed by regulations than those from the interior or from a different section of the country, and who may also be entirely new to this particular line of sanitary work. The State Board of Health should retain its home supervision of its ports, which it is certainly the most capable of exercising. A better and more practicable plan, and which is here recommended, by which the State would best uphold her dignity and self-respect and demonstrate her ability to preserve without Federal interference the health of her seaports and at the same time reduce taxation for health purposes on her citizens, will be to abolish the County Quarantines and to devolve upon the State Board of Health the supervision of the same; which may be, no doubt, self-supporting, as inferred from an examination of the following table:

OPERATIONS STATE AND COUNTY QUARANTINE STATIONS

May 1st to November 15th.

	No. of Vessels Inspected.	No. of Vessels Disinfected.	Amount of Tonnage.	No. of Passengers.	No. of Crew.	Amount of Fees Collected.	Cost of Maintenance.
Mullet Key Station, (State)	240	86	140,592	2,684	5,633	$ 4,062.50	$ 3,512.21
Pensacola Station, (Escambia Co.) .	307	168	186,616	119	3,727	17,961.75	10,317.04
Fernandina Station, (Nassau County) . .	210	30	146,010	482	2,745	2,430.25	2,363.60
Key West Station, (Monroe County).	330	*	. . .	. .	. .	1,855.50	2,070.76
Cedar Keys Station, (Levy County) .	133	. .	3,001	100	1,300	7.00	383.51
Apalachicola Stat'n, (Franklin Co.) .	129	29	38,732	9	588	2,394.28	1,728.87
Boca Grande Stat'n, (State)	31	*	23,225	4	478	40.00	1,276.83
Punta Rassa Station, (State)	85	*	33,756	83	390		195.00
Totals	1,465	313	571,932	3,481	14,861	$28,751.28	$21,847.82

* No vessels disinfected. All sent to Dry Tortugas or Mullet Key for fumigation.

After one or two more disinfecting plants have been erected the larger ports can financially assist the smaller ones, by using their excess of income from fees, over the expenses of operation. Thus the whole coast being under one head, the State Board of Health, the supervision through local resident agents at the several ports can be made more economical and effective, and without that confusion that now results from the want of harmony in the regulation of the County Boards and the State in the division of authority and responsibility existing as at present.

The State Health Officer has carefully prepared two bills (which are given elsewhere) and presents them for the

consideration of the Board and members elect of the Legislature. It is asked that these bills be carefully examined, and if the measures are meritorious, their consideration, approval and enactment is solicited.

FINANCES.

In discussing the finances of the State Board of Health, the Secretary of the Board is conscious that the money question and the expense of operating the Board are to the average tax-payer the main subjects to be considered in dealing with the proposition of health protection. The hope is expressed, however, that the Legislature, composed of thoughtful men, may give thoughtful consideration to this subject and by a careful examination of the tables in the Appendix will be satisfied that the funds of the Board have been carefully managed, and expended with a due regard to economy and efficiency. How much will it cost? and Can the State afford it? is oftener asked than, without this protection, how many lives may an epidemic cause, or what damage to the commercial interests will be experienced? The Board, through its influence, may be regarded as very necessary and a great benefit to the State, but if the cost of maintenance is large, then, in the spirit of mistaken economy, it is to the monetary interests of the State to trust to chance and cut off this expense to tax-payers; particularly so when the direct benefit cannot be mathematically demonstrated in dollars and cents. The amount of money received by the Board from the State during the past four years (quadrennial term of the executive officer of the Board) has been $106,425.80 and from fees at quarantine stations operated by the Board $8,257.50, making a total in receipts of $114,683.30.

Of this amount the Board has as durable assets, from which it can realize when necessary, a steam and vapor disinfecting plant and quarantine station, of modern construction, and a quarantine and patrol boat, the total value of which at a low figure can be safely estimated at $50,000.

Besides these investments the Board owns a boarding station at Boca Grande Pass, Charlotte Harbor, and office furniture, including a safe, typewriter and books and blanks, which would increase the list of available assets to considerably more than one-half the sum which has been expended. If the full levy, as authorized by the Statute creating the State Board of Health, had been made each year the health fund of the State would have received about $132,000, which, with $50,000 appropriated by the special session of the Legislature for the year 1889, would have increased this sum to $180,000 in round numbers. It should not be forgotten that no levy was made at all in 1889 for 1890, and for 1891 and 1892 the levy was curtailed by the State's Executive to one-half of the amount authorized by law. The total expenditures have been $105,764.62, distributed as follows: 1889, $11,405.25; 1890, $40,406.03, (erection of station and purchase of Missoe); 1891, $23,175.87; 1892, $30,777.47.

It must be remembered that $935.78 was the cost of the Yellow Fever cases at Sanford in the spring of 1889, and $764.21 of the cases in Key West in the fall of the same year. These expenditures were for guards to isolate infected premises and to reimburse for articles of bedding and clothing destroyed to prevent the spread of the contagion. The case of the infected bark "Soli Deo Gloria" in 1891 also, which cost $593.02. The erection of a ballast crib at the Mullet Key Quarantine Station and a Boarding Station at Boca Grande Pass was at an expense of $12,000 in round numbers, and, as before noted, are in the nature of assets and should be deducted from the total of expenditures in estimating the current expenses of the past year. Thus it will be seen that of the current expenses of the Board for the past four years, which includes printing, blanks for statistical and sanitary returns, for stationery, stamps, expressage, rent, telegrams and attorneys' fees, the maintenance of the Mullet Key Quarantine and the

Station at Boca Grande, with the salary of the State Health Officer and other employees has not exceeded $60,000, making an average per year of $15,000. Florida is attracting by her varied sources of wealth, hitherto undeveloped, attention from capitalists all over the Union, and marked interest is manifested in her development; great successful financial possibilities being predicted. The phosphate industry is yearly increasing its exports, bringing to our ports vessels from non-desirable foreign ports, made so by the constant prevalence of contagious diseases in epidemic form. This menace to our health will necessarily increase with the activity of trade and to provide against introduction of disease and safely encourage our commerce should be not only the duty, but the cheerful endeavor of each member of the Legislature. The State Health Officer cannot but believe that the Legislature will view the necessity of a State Board of Health as a patriotic and humane measure outside of the financial disaster and depression which would inevitably result in the repeal of the law. The support of the Board should be liberally provided for. Quoting from the third annual report, "The executive officer of the Board believes he has been as economical of the public funds as was consistent with efficient management. No money has been spent not duly authorized by the Board as demanded by or in connection with the sanitary necessities of the State. To endeavor to manage the health department of the State on a merely *cheap plan* promises defeat of the very objects sought for, the confidence of the people and the success which justifies it. It is believed that the people of Florida, the business men, the investors and all others interested in the financial development of the State, constantly dread a return of the situation which led to the loss of life and depression in trade during the years of 1887 and 1888, and are now satisfied that an intelligent management of health matters through a central health organization, such as the State

Board of Health, has accomplished great and lasting good to the State; but the people must realize that to continue this work and to perfect it each year, requires substantial aid in the way of liberal appropriations. If it is not intended to do this, but to have a State Board of Health in name only, it would be better and more honest to our neighboring States and the country in general, to repeal the law, for in that case there would be no pretence of doing what without money it is impossible to accomplish."

The amount of funds employed in establishing any business should not be comprised in each year's current expenses, and in dealing with this question on purely business principles this business axiom should not be lost sight of. If the recommendations noted later on are concurred in by the State Board of Health and adopted by the Legislature as Statutory enactments it is believed that the quarantine system of the State can be made not only self supporting but to yield an income from which other needed disinfecting plants may be erected at ports not now protected by these necessary maritime sanitary appliances. The repeal of the Statute creating County Boards of Health will rescind the one mill tax now ordered levied for the support of these Boards. This will relieve taxation for health purposes on individual counties and it is thought will be appreciated and approved of by the taxpayers generally.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

The suggestions made in last year's report, thought necessary to increase the efficiency of the Board, were carried out in a few particulars. The Boarding Station at Boca Grande Pass has been erected and equipped and the Hospital at the Mullet Key Station has been contracted for. It is again urged that the disinfecting plants recommended for the harbors of Key West and Fernandina be considered, as their erection is necessary and imperative. The former being almost at the outside entrance to Havana and the latter fast becoming a large port for the shipment of lumber

and phosphate to foreign ports. This can better be appreciated by an examination of the table of operations of the different quarantine stations in the State, as controlled both by the State and the several counties. The station at Fernandina, it is thought, will cost in the neighborhood of fifteen thousand dollars, and it is authoritatively stated that the Nassau County Board of Health would very willingly relinquish to the State the control and management of the quarantine for the port of Fernandina and contiguous coast now under its jurisdiction.

CONCLUSION.

In concluding the fourth annual report, the State Health Officer will be pardoned for alluding to the many difficulties which have been experienced in organizing a system of domestic hygiene and sanitation for the towns, and for the prevention of the introduction of disease through the seaports. When the State Board was organized, and the present incumbent accepted the office of State Health Officer, there was little to guide him in the formation of rules and regulations, except the experience gained as a member of a County Board of Health, and in the epidemic of the year previous. It was scarcely to be expected that a perfect system could be at once inaugurated and maintained; first, because of the want of funds to procure necessary appliances in the way of quarantine stations and disinfecting plants, and secondly, the lack of education of the people in regard to the importance of sanitation, which necessarily caused them to view with disfavor any encroachment on their private rights or privileges. These difficulties were to be combatted and overcome. It is believed that this has been accomplished, and that by carefully avoiding antagonisms, and by a determined warfare against disease, the last four years has demonstrated the usefulness of the State Board of Health of Florida. This will become more apparent each year as the country becomes settled up by a class of people whose experience in other States,

older in this regard than Florida, has taught them the usefulness and value of health protection in a financial sense.

The State Health Officer fearing that his health was not adequate to the demands which the labor connected with the quarantine system of the State during the summer months in the future would impose upon him, on the 17th of January tendered his resignation to the President of the Board, to take effect whenever he (the President) "considered that the requirements of the service justified the appointment of his successor." No action having been taken, other than a verbal request from the President to allow the matter to lie quiescent for a time and the period for which he was elected expiring on the 26th, it is not now thought any further action necessary. The trust confided to him four years ago is now returned to the Board with the hope expressed that however short of fulfilling the ideal the work has been, the effort to attain the best results with the means at command will be thought to have been faithfully and honestly made, and that the foundations having been laid, the work may each year attain a greater perfection, which must eventually result in great financial benefit to the State at large. The State Health Officer desires to tender to the President and to each of the members of the Board his heartfelt gratitude for courtesies received at their hands and for the unbounded faith that they have always manifested in his ability and integrity. To the President of the Board he especially feels indebted for the generous support he has always accorded him and for the unlimited confidence to which the many evidences of his friendship bears testimony.

JOSEPH Y. PORTER.
State Health Officer.

APPENDIX

FINANCES.

STATEMENT OF EXPENDITURES SINCE ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD.

Disbursements from May, 1889, to April 30, 1890, being tbe first fiscal year	$ 11,405 25
Disbursemrnts from May 1, 1890, to April 30, 1891, being the second fiscal year	40,406 03
Disbursements from May 1, 1891, to April 30, 1892, being the third fiscal year	23,175 87
Disbursements from May 1, 1892, to February 28, 1893, being the fourth fiscal year	30,777 47
Total expenditures since organization	$105,764 62

ITEMIZED AS FOLLOWS:

	1889.	1890.	1891,	1892.	Total.
Per diem and mileage expenses of members	$ 1,361 60	$ 481 20	$ 661 40	$ 376 80	$ 2,881 00
State Health Officer's Salary.	3,056 47	3,000 00	3,000 00	2,250 00	11,306 47
State Health Officer's traveling expenses	707 70	805 70	926 83	511 59	2,951 82
Clerical assistance	1,047 09	927 50	1,065 00	920 00	3,959 59
Attorney's retainers	403 97	306 85	364 60	250 00	1,325 42
Inspectors salaries	1,442 01	1,894 56	1,442 50	657 50	5,436 57
Office rent	260 00	295 00	240 00	150 00	945 00
Office furniture	325 65	77 77	76 00	9 00	488 42
General office expenses	187 01	296 76	202 01	185 40	871 18
Printing and Stationery	614 62	624 20	468 45	504 60	2,211 87
Printing annual reports		265 00		175 00	440 00
Official telegrams	137 99	66 67	74 88	70 82	350 36
Yellow fever cases at Sanford	935 78				935 78
Purchase of steamer Missoe.		5,000 00			5,000 00
Alterations to Missoe		1,028 46	3,223 17		4,251 63
Repairs to steamer Missoe				2,174 83	2,174 83
Maintaining steamer Missoe.		1,926 12	5,496 41	3,666 08	11,088 61
Yellow fever cases at Key West	764 21				764 21
Station at Port Tampa	27 35				27 35
President's trip to Charleston	28 30				28 30
Packing camp equipage		11 15			11 15
Dr. J. C. Burroughs' trip to St. Augustine		18 70			18 70
Draughting plans	60 00		139 00		199 00
Boat hire	28 00	310 00	20 00		358 00
Erecting Mullet Key Station		21,687 87			21,687 87
Salary of supervisor		908 33			908 33
Maintaining Mullet Key Station		464 19	3,961 03	4,117 71	8,542 93
Additions to Mullet Key Station			379 89	1,022 50	1,402 39
Repairs to Mullet Key Station				447 26	447 26
Insurance			337 25	309 75	647 00
Interest on money			224 48		224 48
Case "Soli Deo Gloria"			593 02		593 02
Telephone			55 73	60 00	115 73
Office safe,			194 22		194 22
Case of leprosy at Key West.			30 00	125 00	155 00
Erecting Boca Grande Stat'n				1,185 00	1,185 00
Maintaining Boca Grande Station				2,034 47	2,034 47
Building at Sarasota				102 50	102 50
Hospital at Mullet Key				45 00	45 00
Erection M. K. ballast crib				9,581 66	9,581 66
Miscellaneous	17 50	10 00		45 00	72 50
Totals	$11,405 25	$40,406 03	$23,175 87	$30,777 47	$105,764 62

STATEMENT OF CURRENT EXPENSES AND PERMANENT OUTLAY.

	Current Expenses.	Permanent Outlay.
Per diem and mileage expenses of members	$2,881 00	
State Health Officer's salary	11,306 47	
State Health Officer's traveling expenses	2,951 82	
Clerical assistance	3,959 59	
Attorneys' retainers	1,325 42	
Inspectors' salaries	5,436 57	
Office rent	945 00	
Office furniture		488 42
General Office expenses	871 18	
Printing and stationery	2,211 87	
Printing annual reports	440 00	
Official telegrams	350 36	
Yellow Fever cases at Sanford		935 78
Purchase of steamer "Missoe"		5,000 00
Alterations to "Missoe"		4,251 63
Repairs to steamer "Missoe"	2,174 83	
Maintaining steamer "Missoe"	11,088 61	
Yellow Fever cases at Key West		764 21
Station at Port Tampa	27 35	
President's trip to Charleston	28 30	
Packing camp equipage	11 15	
Dr. Burroughs' trip to St. Augustine	18 70	
Draughting plans		199 00
Boat hire	358 00	
Erecting Mullet Key Station		21,687 87
Salary of supervisor of const		908 33
Maintaining Mullet Key Station	8,542 93	
Additions to Mullet Key Station		1,402 39
Repairs to Mullet Key Station	447 26	
Insurance	647 00	
Interest on money borrowed		224 48
Case "Soli Deo Gloria"		593 02
Telephone	115 73	
Office safe		194 22
Case Leprosy at Key West		155 00
Erecting Boca Grande Station		1,185 00
Maintaining Boca Grande Station	2,034 47	
Building at Sarasota		102 50
Hospital at Mullet Key		45 00
Erection Mullet Key Ballast Crib		9,381 66
Miscellaneous	72 50	
Totals	$58,246 11	$47,518 51

Statement of Quarantine Fees Collected since Organization of Board.

(From May, 1889, to February 29, 1893.)

Disinfection fees received at Port Tampa Station, 1889	$ 201 50
Disinfection fees received at Port Tampa Station, 1890	69 25
Inspection and disinfection fees received at Mullet Key Station, 1891	3,642 50
Inspection fees received at Punta Gorda, 1891	25 00
Inspection fees received at Braidentown, 1891	5 00
Inspection and disinfection fees received at Mullet Key Station, 1892	4,274 25
Inspection fees received at Punta Gorda, 1892	40 00
Total quarantine fees collected by Board to date	$8,257 50

SMALL POX AT JACKSONVILLE, MARCH, 1893.

Under date of March 6th, 1893, Dr. C. J. Burroughs, Health Officer of the Board of Health of the city of Jacksonville, made the following report to the State Board of Health:

"I herewith advise you of a case of Small Pox now under treatment in St. Luke's Hospital. The patient, John Riley, aged fifteen years, was brought here by the Agent of the Children's Aid Society, suffering, as stated by said agent, with cold and fever; having just arrived from New York and taken sick *en route*. It was not until after his arrival (several hours) that the eruption made its appearance. The boy stated that he had been in a house where some one was sick with Typhus Fever and had been removed and kept under observation for some time. The eruption at first was characteristic of that of Typhus but later showed that of Small Pox. An examination of the arm developed a recent attempt at vaccination, which had been a complete failure. We have certainly reason to believe that the boy had been exposed to Small Pox instead of Typhus and had then been vaccinated."

"As soon as the eruption was observed, the boy was taken from the wards of the hospital and placed in a building outside, where he is now being cared for. His condition to-day is good. The room occupied by patient has been properly attended to and other precautions observed. You will be advised further on the subject."

The following "confidential" notification of the existence of a case of contagious disease in the State was at once sent to each County and State Board of Health:

"You are notified that a case of Small Pox exists at Jacksonville, Florida. The patient, one John Riley, aged fifteen years, was brought to Jacksonville, in company with twelve other children, March 3d, by an Agent of the Children's Aid Society. The boy was taken sick *en route* from New York with a cold and fever. On arrival at Jacksonville, admission to St. Luke's Hospital was applied for and

obtained. Several hours after arrival in the city and admission to the hospital, an eruption made its appearance. The boy stated he had been an inmate of a house in New York in which Typhus Fever had been discovered; that he had been removed, kept under observation for a time and then discharged, without having been sick. The eruption was at first characteristic of Typhus Fever, but later indicated Small Pox. Examination developed a recent attempt at vaccination, which had been a complete failure. It is therefore probable that it was Small Pox and not Typhus which caused his removal from the infected house. As soon as the eruption was observed the boy was removed from the wards of St. Luke's Hospital and isolated. Every precaution was at once taken."

"In view of the fact that this boy came to Florida in company with twelve others, who were taken directly to Ocala, there to be distributed throughout the State, wherever homes had been obtained for them, it behooves all city and county health authorities to be on the *qui vive* and to report immediately to this office any suspicious circumstances. You will be further advised in regard to this matter. This information is strictly confidential."

In addition to this sealed circular-letter, the Board of Health of Marion County, in which county the city of Ocala is located, was specifically communicated with, as follows:

"You are confidentially informed that more or less suspicion attaches to a party of twelve boys, brought to Florida by the Children's Aid Society, of New York. They passed through Jacksonville, bound for Ocala, last Friday, leaving one of their number here, ill with a disease similating Small Pox in many of its symptoms. You are thus advised that your Board may be informed of the past history of these children, in the event any of them should be taken sick while in your midst. Ocala is understood to be the distributing point from whence they will be sent to homes in various parts of the State. Until you are further advised from this office, I would counsel the greatest circumspection in dealing with the subject. Unless some of the party are now in Ocala and unwell, I would not advise your taking any decisive action. Simply keep them under your eye."

No "suspicious" case has been reported from Marion county, or any other portion of the State. As was thought probable, at the time, the danger of Riley's companions having contracted the disease from contact with him, was slight, as it had not fully developed at the time of his arrival in Jacksonville.

Under date of March 21st the City Health Officer reports as follows, as to the condition of the case in Jacksonville:

"In reply to your letter of the 20th instant, I will state that sickness has prevented my giving you my views of the boy's present condition, from personal observation, but I am informed by the Resident Physician that he is convalescing nicely, with the prospect of being discharged shortly. Of course, all necessary precautions will be observed."

YELLOW FEVER ON SCHOONER "EVA B. DOUGLAS."

On August 5th, 1892, the State Health Officer on board the quarantine tender "Missoe" received the following communication from Dr. D. M. Echemendia, physician in charge of the Mullet Key Quarantine Station:

"I have the honor to report the arrival at this station yesterday of the four-masted schooner "Eva B. Douglas," Capt. Letts, four days from Havana, and bound for Punta Gorda, with a crew of nine men, all white but one. This vessel lay in Havana twenty-four days and three of her crew were taken to the hospital with Yellow Fever; the last one eleven days ago; taking with them their clothing. Personal inspection shows the vessel to be sound with no soft wood and clean all over, save for some coal dust in the lower hold; bilge without odor and clean and no ballast. The nine men are healthy at present. Vessel has been thoroughly fumigated and disinfected and held for observation; anchored at convenient place out of the way of other vessels. The hold will be whitewashed before discharge."

The following orders were at once dispatched to the quarantine station:

Quarantine Steamer "Missoe,"
August 5th, 1892.

Dr. D. M. Eschemendia, Physician to Mullet Key Quarantine Station:

DEAR DOCTOR—Replying to your favor of the 4th instant, I desire that you hold the American Schooner "Eva B. Douglas" at least ten days from date of disinfection, for observation. You will remember the case of the captain who died two weeks after leaving Havana, last year, at the Government Quarantine Station at Chandelieur Island. If the captain demurs you might show him the history of this case. I will be down to the Station to-morrow.

The State Health Officer arrived at the Quarantine Station on the afternoon of the 6th, and on the following morning, August 7th, made this report to the President of the State Board of Health:

"*Hon. W. B. Henderson, President State Board of Health, Tampa, Fla.:*

"DEAR MR. HENDERSON—I regret to report to you that the captain of the "Eva Douglas" (a four-masted schooner, six years old; American) developed Yellow Fever on board of her yesterday. The vessel is laying in the bay in quarantine. He was taken sick on the afternoon of the 5th, but did not report to Dr. Echemendia until yesterday morning. The doctor ordered some of his urine and an hour after my arrival it was procured and showed by test one-third by volume albumen. I immediately went aboard of the vessel and the case was then so plainly marked as to admit of no doubt. I ordered the first mate to take the vessel to Dry Tortugas and expected her to leave at daylight this morning. It was too late yesterday for her to get under way when the case was discovered. The order was given verbally and afterwards in writing. In order to be as humane as possible, I detailed Capt. Bahrt as nurse to accompany the vessel to Dry Tortugas and to nurse the captain, giving him medicine and general directions for use. Capt. Bahrt went on board at daylight but found the first mate sick and one seaman and informs me it is impossible to work the vessel with the remainder of the crew, the second mate being incapacitated from doing anything by reason of a severe fall down the main hatch a few days ago. I wrote Capt. Bahrt

if in his judgment as a mariner it was impossible to move the vessel, to take her to the opposite side of the bay, under the point of Egmont, where there is good anchorage, and out of the track of travel and to the leeward of the Station. Capt. Bahrt decided he could not go to sea and endeavored to move the vessel. The wind is ahead and not making sail enough to manage her she nearly drifted ashore to the leeward of the Station. As soon as possible I will have him move. I have just this moment come from the vessel and found the captain with fever quite high and very restless; mate very sick, the engineer and a seaman commencing to be sick. The mate and the last two men were taken between sundown last night and this morning. It was just nine days from Havana to the captain's seizure. The vessel was disinfected thoroughly here on her arrival on August 4th. In view of the fact that there are a number of cases on board and occurring almost simultaneously I have concluded to treat them all ón board and not attempt to move them ashore—in fact, if the captain is taken ashore or moved he will die. I have done all I possibly can to humanely get rid of this vessel and have failed; now the best I can do is to prevent any of the infection getting ashore and I can see no reason why it should be communicated. I will stay here and use all precautions. I would like to have two Yellow Fever nurses and some medicine and authority to hire a naptha launch for the period that may be necessary to keep the vessel isolated. The distance will be too long to row. If you approve of these suggestions, please inform Capt. Russell and he will attend to the matter of getting nurses and launch. There has been no communication between the "Douglass" and any other vessel now in quarantine. Hurriedly yours, etc.,

(Signed) JOSEPH Y. PORTER,
State Health Officer.

"P. S.—A powerful Pensacola tug would be just the thing to tow this vessel to Tortugas. I doubt if the Cutter can do it. The "Douglas" is a four-master 1,039 tons. I have wired the Revenue Cutter "McLane" at Cedar Keys as follows: 'Request you to tow at once from here American schooner "Eva Douglas" to Tortugas; captain and three men sick." If you think proper you can wire Dr. Anderson to send a tug here from Pensacola.

Captain Russell thinks we can manage to use "Missoe" so never mind about launch. Yours, J. Y. P."

Later the same day the following was forwarded to the President of the State Board of Health, Tampa, Fla.

"*Hon W. B. Henderson, President State Board of Health, Tampa, Fla.:*

DEAR SIR—I regret to have to report to you that the American four-masted schooner "Eva B. Douglas," from Havana for Charlotte Harbor, Fla., is in quarantine five miles from this Station, with the captain and three seamen, including the first mate, sick on board with Yellow Fever.

The "Douglas" was in Havana twenty days at the Taliapiedra wharf, on the Havana side. During the vessel's stay there she sent three men to the hospital with what her Consular bill of health states "proved to be Yellow Fever." On her arrival at this Station on the afternoon of the 3d instant, her crew were apparently in good health and were mustered "well."

The arrival of the vessel was reported to me at Port Tampa on the 4th by Dr. Echemendia, the physician of the Station, who stated in his report that he had thoroughly fumigated the hold, cabin and forecastle of the vessel with sulphur dioxide; burning two hundred pounds of sulphur and had washed the vessel with solution of bi-chloride of mercury. Besides this the bedding, clothing and effects of the captain and crew had been subjected to steam disinfection of 230° F. of twelve pounds pressure. The vessel was then anchored off the Station in quarantine for observation. On the afternoon of the 6th inst. I arrived at the Station and learned from Dr. Echemendia that Capt. Letts (Captain of the "Douglas") had reported that the afternoon previous he had experienced a chill, some fever and sweating, but was all right that morning. I rowed off to the schooner soon afterwards and found on examination that the captain had high fever, slow pulse, injected eyes and albuminous urine: in fine, the characteristic symptoms of Yellow Fever. No other cases were found at this visit. The first mate (Mr. Miller) was ordered to take the vessel to the United States Government Quarantine Station at Dry Tortugas and Captain Bahrt, assistant at this Station, was detailed as nurse, with medicines and directions, to accompany the captain. As the wind and tide was unfavorable the "Douglas" could not sail that afternoon. On the next morning's visit (to-day) I found the captain very ill and the first mate and two seamen sick. It was impossible then to send the schooner to sea, and as the infection of the crew promised to be general I determined to treat the cases on board. Accordingly the "Douglas" has been moved five miles from this Station and no communication is had with her except through myself, and I am in quarantine at this Station. I have an acclimated crew at the Station and therefore there is not the slightest possible danger of communicating the disease to others or elsewhere.

You may rest assured that I will take every precaution necessary, and at the same time, care for the sick under my charge in a humane and christian manner. Doubtless there will be sensational rumors in your midst and there will not be wanting panicky persons, doing much talking and frightening the timid. To all such I beg that you will say that this Station was built to take care of such emergencies as this and that to care for this class of infected vessels and vessels that come from suspicious ports is just what we are here for. Therefore, there is no cause for alarm, and to engage in senseless talk and to encourage fears is not only unwise but damaging to the State. The Captain and crew contracted the disease in Havana. It will be noted that the vessel left Havana on July 30th, and that the Captain and men were taken sick seven and eight days respectively after leaving that port—dates within the incubative period of Yellow Fever. Please send me two Yellow Fever nurses. Very truly yours, etc.

(Signed) JOSEPH Y. PORTER,
State Health Officer.

The following letter was in reply to the foregoing and fully explains itself:

Tampa, Fla., August 8th, 1892.

Dr. J. Y. Porter, State Health Officer, Mullet Key Station, Fla.

DEAR DOCTOR—Your favor of the 7th instant, informing me of your having four cases of Yellow Fever on board the schooner "Douglas" was brought over to me by Captain Russell last night. I think that you have done all that you could and your proposed course the best under the circum-

stances. I shall not wire for the tug from Pensacola, as I feel sure that under your personal attention there is but little, if any, danger of the fever getting ashore. And it will be far better for the sick and much less expensive to keep them where you have them; besides, it is not improbable you will have other vessels coming to you in the same condition. Therefore, I suggest that we get ourselves in shape as fast as possible to take care of them, on board, in the vicinity of the Station. I am sending you two colored nurses who claim to have had experience in nursing Yellow Fever patients. I have promised them three dollars per day. They are to remain as long as you want them. I find that I can get others (colored) and I think that white men can be procured if needed. I trust that you will keep me fully posted and advise me of your wants, which I promise you shall be supplied as early as possible. The town is full of wild rumors, and I think it might be well for you to address me a short communication briefly stating the situation, to be given to the press, with the assurance that every possible precaution was being taken to prevent its spread. Yours truly,

(Signed) W. B. HENDERSON,
President State Board Health.

On August 8th, the following "Confidential" communication was sent out from the office of the State Board of Health at Jacksonville to all City, County and State Health Authorities informing them of the condition of affairs at Mullet Key:

"DEAR SIR—You are informed that the American four-masted schooner 'Eva B. Douglas,' Capt. Letts, arrived at the State Quarantine Station, Mullet Key, Tampa Bay, Florida, on the evening of August 3d, four days from Havana, Cuba; was thoroughly disinfected on the 4th and placed in quarantine in the Bay, under observation, and having no communication with other vessels. On the afternoon of the 6th the captain was found with high fever and examination proved that it was Yellow Fever. The vessel was ordered to proceed to the Dry Tortugas Refuge Station, but the mate and two seamen were taken sick that night (the 6th) and the vessel could not be sent to sea. The vessel has been anchored five miles to leeward of the

Station, out of the track of commerce and no communication is allowed with her, nor has there been since sickness was discovered, except through the State Health Officer. A competent nurse has been placed on board and as soon as towage can be procured the vessel will be sent to the Government Refuge Station at Dry Tortugas.

"No danger threatens, and on cessation of fever and before pratique is given her from this Station she will be thoroughly fumigated. You will be advised from time to time. This letter is confidential."

The following correspondence explains itself:

Mullet Key Quarantine Station,
August 9, 1892.

Hon. W. B. Henderson, President State Board Health, Tampa:

DEAR MR. HENDERSON—Yours of the 8th came safely to hand. I am much obliged for your expressions of confidence and approval of my course taken towards the schooner "Eva Douglas." So far I have utilized only one of the nurses sent me and have detained the other at the Station. Captain Letts has taken a great fancy to Capt. Bahrt and I have left him on board for the present. The sick were doing well on my visit yesterday afternoon. The captain is the worse off but I hope to pull all through safely. If you can arrange to send the 500 pounds of ice on Friday by the "Kissimmee" I will be obliged. The captain of the "Douglas" authorizes any necessary expense.

Yours hastily,

(Signed) JOSEPH Y. PORTER,
State Health Officer.

Quarantine Station, Mullet Key,
August 10, 1892.

Hon. W. B. Henderson, President State Board of Health, Tampa, Fla.:

DEAR MR. HENDERSON—Everything is progressing well. The captain of the "Douglas" was somewhat better yesterday, but weak, and today will be the critical period. The mate had very high fever yesterday afternoon, but the balance are better. Will you kindly send me by the "Kissimmee" tomorrow (I will send the "Missoe" to meet her) the inclosed order. Instead of sending 500 pounds of ice on Friday, in bulk, please divide it, and send

200 pounds tomorrow and 200 pounds Saturday; that will even up better. I keep steam up on the "Missoe" and it is very easy for her to run across the bay and meet the "Kissimmee." Two "tramp" steamers arrived yesterday; one for Punta Gorda and the other for Tampa.

Yours truly, etc.,
JOSEPH Y. PORTER,
State Health Officer.

Tampa, Fla., August 10, 1892.

Dr. J. Y. Porter, State Health Officer, Mullet Key, Fla.:

DEAR DOCTOR—Your two favors of the 9th and 10th at hand. I am very grateful that things are progressing so favorably with you. The medicines and ice will go forward by the "Kissimmee" tomorrow and Saturday. You will doubtless wonder why the press of Tampa contained so much Yellow Fever news in advance of your report of yesterday. I stated in my note of the 8th, that the town was full of wild reports, they continued to increase until some of the more timid citizens thought seriously of leaving the place, on account of the fever. Some of the newspaper people came to me and requested that I give them the facts for publication. Believing that it would be best, I complied, though I notice some errors, as published. I am glad to state that the result is as I anticipated; all is quiet, and I hear only expressions of confidence in your ability to keep the fever out of Tampa. Some even going so far as to say that they are glad you have had the opportunity of demonstrating the wisdom of the Governor in creating a State Board of Health, etc., etc. * * * *

Yours truly,
(Signed) W. B. HENDERSON.

Mullet Key Quarantine Station, Tampa Bay,
August 11, 1892.

Hon. W. B. Henderson, President State Board of Health, Tampa.

DEAR MR. HENDERSON—It is painful to have to report to you the death of Captain Letts, of the schooner "Eva Douglas" He died at 4 A. M., of Uræmic Poisoning, as sequence of Yellow Fever. When I wrote you yesterday morning I had not been off to the schooner, and therefore was hopeful of the captain's recovery, from favorable symptoms of the afternoon previous. He commenced to fail yesterday about 10 A. M., when his kidneys failed to act and the end was in convulsions about 4 this A. M. His fever left yesterday afternoon but there was no reaction. I have arranged the burial on Anna Maria Key as follows: Will send off coffin and my men will be towed to Anna Maria Key to dig grave; when completed they will be towed back in our boat and set adrift; Captain Bahrt, with schooner's boat, corpse and part of the crew able to handle the coffin will be towed to Anna Maria Key and will bury the captain and will then be towed back to the schooner. Capt. Bahrt will take the mattresses, blankets, carpets and rugs, as well as everything woolen used by the captain, with the body when he goes to bury it and will afterwards burn these effects. No more ice or stores are needed. I have sent a wire to the owner of the vessel.

Very truly yours,
(Signed) JOSEPH Y. PORTER,
State Health Officer.

Mullet Key Quarantine Station,
August 12th.

Hon. W. B. Henderson, President State Board of Health, Tampa.

DEAR MR. HENDERSON — At my morning's visit today to the "Douglas" I found one of the men with slight fever. With the exception of a negro seaman, shipped in Havana, this case today completes the crew. The first mate is clear of the fever today and up, but quite weak. The second mate had the fever in Rio some years ago and has not been sick since the arrival of the schooner here. As previously reported, he fell through the main hatch just before the schooner reached here and was pretty badly shaken up, but with no bones broken. A young Norwegian sailor says he had Yellow Fever in Santos six months ago. The steward was treated for Malarial Fever (?) and was sick, very sick, he says, while the vessel lay at the dock at Havana. He and the Norwegian have not been sick since arrival. The balance have been sick since, except the negro sailor, and I am inclined to think he has had a seizure elsewhere; of course this is conjecture only. The nurse that I detained here at the Station and did not send to the schooner and has had no communication with

her, will be discharged this afternoon and sent up in the "Kissimmee" with instructions to report to you that you may see him. I have paid him $15.00 for five days. He has done nothing, but was here in case I needed him. Capt. Bahrt was relieved last night from the "Douglas" in the following manner: a boat was towed over by the "Missoe" to the schooner, Capt. Bahrt and his few effects placed in the boat and towed back; he in the boat. Off the Station he was cast loose from the "Missoe" and he rowed in; taking off his clothes in the small boat he jumped overboard for a long swim. On the "Approach" he took a soap bath and put on clean clothes. The clothes that he had on with his other effects had with him on the schooner were placed in a strong solution of bi-chloride of mercury and afterwards subjected to steam disinfection 230° F. and sulphur gas of strength of 15 per cent. I think he is safe. The colored nurse now on the "Douglas" will be treated in similar manner when he is relieved.

Dr. Burgess writes me from Havana that the "Eva Douglas" and the "Emerson" another schooner in here from Havana, evidently had Yellow Fever on them and should be regarded as suspicious although there is Malarial Fever prevailing at the Taliapiedra wharf where these vessels were lying. As a matter of interest I enclose you the sworn statements of the captains of these vessels with the Consular bills of health attached. When through with them please send to the office in Jacksonville. The "Emerson's" crew are negroes; captain, mate and cook, white. The "Emerson's" time of detention will be up on Sunday. She will then have been sixteen days from Havana and eleven days from date of her disinfection after arriving here. I shall bring her into the wharf tomorrow morning and subject her to a second disinfection and fumigation. Of course this must be without charge. The captain of the "Emerson" makes no objection to this procedure. He says that a man is deserving of anything that goes to Havana during the summer. The schooner "John R. Bergen" left Havana on the 8th for this Station. Dr. Burgess designates her as suspicious. She was at the same wharf as these other two vessels, the "Emerson" and "Douglas." I enclose a small order for tobacco for the mate and convalescent men. Please do me the favor to have the mosquito bars sent as soon as possible. The mosquitoes are bad even off as far as the "Douglas" and the sick need them badly. I will keep you advised of our situation here as often as the mail facilities afford.

Yours truly,
(Signed) JOSEPH Y. PORTER,
State Health Officer.

The following extracts are from the correspondence on the subject, a reproduction of the whole of which would make this report too voluminous:

"The captain of the Revenue Cutter "McLane" wired in answer to my request for him to tow the Douglas to Tortugas that he could not do so without instructions from the Secretary of the Treasury. All of which goes to prove that if we are to be protected from the introduction of contagious disease into Florida, we must do it ourselves and not rely on the United States Government."

"There is nothing of especial moment to report at this writing (August 15th) in regard to the schooner 'Douglas.'" "My morning's visit finds the seaman mentioned in last evening's letter, quite sick. I cannot tell how the case will turn out, as it is impossible, even with a nurse on board, to make the average sailor obey instructions in sickness. I found the man on deck and barefooted. His kidneys are not involved, which is a favorable symptom. The first-mate has a sub-normal temperature today, which confirms my diagnosis as first made, although the course of the sickness was somewhat irregular."

"Only one man now (August 15th) sick with fever. The rest are convalescing. They need much strengthening food and I hope the beef written for Saturday may arrive by the 'Kissimmee' this morning."

"My visit yesterday (August 16th) to the schooner 'Douglas' found the seaman John Neilson (last white case) without fever but very weak. He will convalesce now with care taken. I don't think the Gibralter negro will be sick. He has passed, or nearly so, the incubative period. Capt. Anderson, of Port Richmond, Staten Island, N. Y., who appears to be the managing owner of the 'Douglas' writes me, under date of the 13th, that if, in my opinion, it is deemed best to send the schooner direct to New York from here, after I have disinfected her thoroughly, he will do so. The superintendent of the Peace River

Phosphate Company writes that his company may annul or cancel the charter of the 'Douglas.' I have communicated this fact to Capt. Anderson, and have approved of his idea of sending the vessel direct North from here. Although she will be safe enough to take cargo anywhere after I get through with her.

"The 'Douglas' is undergoing second fumigation today (August 23rd). She has been literally flooded with bichloride of mercury solution. At present the men are discharging their clothes and putting on freshly disinfected articles. The captain asked me this morning if he left here for Philadelphia when would I let him off? I said Saturday or Sunday. 'But if I go to Punta Gorda, what then?' said he. 'September 15th,' I answered, 'If you are well.' He will go to Philadelphia and leave Saturday or Sunday."

RULES AND REGULATIONS

—FOR—

Inter-State Quarantine and Medical Inspection.

Under authority granted by Section 12 of the Act creating a State Board of Health, approved February 20th, 1889, the State Board of Health of Florida hereby adopts the following rules and regulations governing inland or inter-State detention and inspection of passengers, baggage and freight from infected points:

SECTION 1. Whenever Yellow Fever, Cholera, Small Pox or other contagious or infectious disease shall exist or prevail in any city or town of any State of the United States, Mexico or Canada to such an extent as may be adjudged by the State Health Officer to endanger the health of the inhabitants of the State of Florida, through railway, stage, steamboat or other medium of inter-communication, then all individuals entering the State of Florida from such infected locality by means of such railway, stage and inland water navigation company shall be detained at such points on or near the border line of Florida, as may be selected by the State Health Officer, for observation of passengers and treatment and isolation of sick, and for fumigation of baggage, freight and mails.

SEC. 2. Any individual or individuals found upon any railway train, stage coach, steamboat or other conveyance, from any city, town or place of any other State of the United States, Mexico or Canada, suffering from any epidemic, contagious or infectious disease, and all such persons who, in the opinion of the medical inspector at any quarantine station may reasonably be suspected of having been subjected to infection or contagion from such individual or individuals, shall be detained for treatment and observation as specified in Section 3.

SEC. 3. All passengers detained under provisions of Sections 1 and 2 will be detained for such treatment and observation not less than ten days, or for such time as the

State Health Officer shall deem necessary for the safety of the public health.

SEC. 4. No railway or stage line, or any person, company or corporation shall be permitted to bring passengers from any city, town or place in any other State of the United States, Mexico or Canada, where epidemic, contagious or infectious disease exists, to any city, town or place in the State of Florida, without undergoing such detention as is specified in Section 3.

SEC. 5. Persons desiring to enter the State of Florida on any railroad, steamboat or stage coach, or otherwise passing any quarantine station, will be required to produce to the inspecting officer, duly appointed by the State Health Officer, a certificate signed by the Mayor, under the corporate seal, if said person is from a municipal corporation, and if not from a municipal corporation, then a certificate from a justice of the peace, that that said person has not been exposed, either in person or baggage, to infection or contagion within fifteen days before the date of said certificate; Provided, Said certificate shall bear date not more than five days prior to such presentation; otherwise said person or persons and his or her baggage will be detained at such quarantine station as provided for in Section 3.

SEC. 6. No bedding, household goods or rags shall be brought from any city, town or place of any other State or country where epidemic, contagious or infectious disease exists, into the State of Florida.

SEC. 7. No personal baggage of the description usually carried in trunks shall be brought into this State from any city, town or place of any State of the United States, Mexico or Canada, where any epidemic, contagious or infectious disease exists, without first being subjected to thorough disinfection by an agent of this Board by superheated steam, dry heat of high temperature or medicated vapor, according to the nature of the article.

SEC. 8. All day, sleeping or other railroad cars, stage coaches or other conveyances, steamboats or other craft on which any epidemic, contagious or infectious disease is found to exist, and all through sleeping cars coming from infected points, shall be detained and thoroughly disinfected by an

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agent of this Board before being allowed to enter the State of Florida.

SEC. 9. No freight, mail or other goods, not heretofore provided for, shall be brought into this State from any city, town or place of any other State of the United States, Mexico or Canada where epidemic, contagious or infectious disease exists, without first being thoroughly disinfected by an agent of this Board, except such freight as may in the opinion of the State Health Officer be deemed free from danger of infection or contagion.

Adopted September 17, 1892.

PROPOSED LEGISLATION.

A Bill to be Entitled an Act to Provide for the Collection of Vital Statistics in the Several Counties of the State of Florida.

Be it Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

SECTION 1. That in each County of the State of Florida the County Judge thereof shall keep a record of births and deaths of persons occurring within the county, numbering, recording and indexing the same in books to be kept exclusively for that purpose.

SEC. 2. The record of births shall note in separately ruled columns the lineal number of entry, date and place of birth, sex, race or color, name of child (if any), name of father, maiden name of mother, race or color of father and of mother, residence of parents, birthplace of parents, occupation of father, legitimacy or illegitimacy of child, whether born alive or dead and date of record.

SEC. 3. Record of deaths shall note in separately ruled columns lineal number of entry, date of death, name of deceased, sex, age, condition (whether married, single or widowed), cause of death, race or color, place of residence, length of residence in Florida, place of birth, place of burial, medical attendant (if any) and date of record.

SEC. 4. In the matter of births it shall be and is hereby made the duty of every physician, when one is in attendance, and when not in attendance, then each midwife or householder or master of a ship or boat, or superintendent or keeper of an asylum, prison or home, in whose house, vessel or institution the birth of an infant may occur, also of the father or mother surviving, or of any person or persons who were present at or cognizant of the birth of a child, living or dead, in the State of Florida, within fifteen days thereafter, to report to the County Judge of the county in which said birth occurs all facts relating thereto hereinbefore enumerated and made material, of which they may have knowledge.

SEC. 5. In the matter of deaths it shall be, and is here-

by made the duty of such persons as are designated in the preceding section, within fifteen days after the occurrence of a death of any person dying in Florida, to report the fact to the County Judge of the county in which the death occurred, together with such particulars as are hereinbefore mentioned and made material, and are within the knowledge of said parties. If a physician is in attendance it is made his duty to furnish the certificate of death, for burial, and to report the same to the County Judge.

SEC. 6. That any person hereinbefore required to make reports of births or deaths, coming to their knowledge, who shall fail or refuse to do so within the time prescribed by law, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined in a sum of not less than one dollar and not exceeding twenty-five dollars, and required to pay the cost of prosecution.

SEC. 7. Books with printed heads, and ruled so as to comply with the requirements of this Act, for the entry of record of births and deaths, shall be supplied the several County Judge's offices by the State Board of Health, within sixty days from the passage of this Act.

SEC. 8. On the second Monday of each and every month, it shall be, and is hereby made the duty of each County Judge, to transmit to the State Board of Health, a certified tabulated statement of births, marriages and deaths, occurring in their respective counties during the preceding month, together with other data herein provided for, and such report shall be made on printed forms to be supplied by the State Board of Health, on the requisition of County Judges.

A Bill to be Entitled an Act to Create and Establish a State Bureau of Vital Statistics for the State of Florida and to increase the efficiency of the State Board of Health.

Be it Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

SECTION 1. The State Board of Health of Florida shall compile accurate vital statistics of marriages, births and deaths occurring within the State, arranged by Counties and incorporated cities, with statements of the prevailing diseases and all information of a medical or sanitary nature that may be of value in the preservation of the pub-

lic health, and for this purpose a State Bureau of Vital Statistics is created, to be under the supervision of the State Health Officer, as Registrar of said Bureau, with office at the office of the State Board of Health. The said Registrar of Vital Statistics shall formulate, print and furnish suitable blanks for collecting and compiling such statistics, to be paid for by the State Board of Health, and he shall as often as once a month tabulate and publish such statistics and furnish copies of the same to the incorporated cities within the State and gratuitously distribute copies to persons and to other States of the Union as may be deemed advisable by the State Board of Health. Provided that nothing in this section shall be construed as increasing the levy now authorized for the State Board of Health fund.

SEC. 2. The State Board of Health shall have its office at some convenient and suitable point, where shall be kept the records and papers of the Board and of the State Bureau of Vital Statistics. The regular meeting of the State Board of Health shall be on the second Tuesday in February of each year.

SEC. 3. The State Board of Health shall be increased in members by the addition thereto of the State Health Officer, as *ex officio* member; and the President of the State Board of Health and the State Health Officer shall constitute an executive committee of said Board, and shall have full powers, in emergencies, *ad interim* of the regular meetings of the Board, to make such rules and regulations and do all other things that may be necessary to prevent disease and protect the public health, not inconsistent with the Act creating the State Board of Health, approved February 20th, 1889, or with the provisions of this Act; reporting their actions to the Board at the next meeting for approval; *Provided*, That a meeting of the Board may be called at any time by the President on the request of two members.

SEC. 4. It shall be the duty of the State Board of Health to organize as a corporation under the general incorporation Acts of the State of Florida, in order to legally acquire control, on behalf of said State, of such property as said Board may require for the preservation of the public health.

SEC. 5. The State Health Officer shall have the general administrative and executive control of all the marine and domestic quarantine systems of the State. He shall have power to make arrests without warrant for any violation of the quarantine rules and regulations of the State Board of Health or the executive committee of the same, after they have been daily promulgated. He shall also have power to deputize sanitary agents for that purpose. In all such cases the person or persons arrested for violating the quarantine and sanitary rules aforesaid shall be surrendered without delay to the custody of the nearest sheriff and formal complaint made against him, her or them in accordance with law.

SEC. 6. It shall be duty of the State Health Officer to visit such cities and towns or other places in the State of Florida and investigate their sanitary condition, whenever in his judgment or in the opinion of the President of the State Board of Health, or upon request of the authorities or three property holders, it may be deemed necessary, and it shall be his duty to condemn in any of said cities or towns or other places whatsoever in his judgment shall be likely to produce, cause or propagate disease, and he shall give notice to the mayor and council of any such town or city or other authority, to repair, remove, cleanse or remedy the same, and if it shall not be done in a reasonable time, it shall be his duty to make a report of the same, with all the facts pertaining thereto, to the State's Attorney of the circuit court having legal jurisdiction, or to the prosecuting officer of a court of criminal record in said place or county, who shall proceed at the next term of court against any mayor or council or other authority of any city or town failing to comply with the direction of the State Health Officer; Provided, That whenever in the occurrence of any epidemic contagious disease it may be necessary for the State Health Officer, for the preservation of the public health, to destoy any property, a list or memorandum of the property condemned shall be made and valuation placed upon the same by three disinterested freeholders, one to be selected by the State Health Officer, one to be selected by the owner of the property and the third to be selected by the two freeholders already selected, before being condemned or destoyed, and the value of any private property that may be condemned and ordered to be destroyed by the State Health Officer shall be paid to the owner thereof out of any funds provided and appropriated for the expenses

of the State Board of Health, upon the certificate of said State Health Officer that said property was so destoyed, approved by the President of the Board; and provided further, that the said Board of Arbitration shall be paid by the State Board of Health for their services.

SEC. 8. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with the provisions hereof be and the same are hereby repealed.

SEC. 10. That this act shall take effect from and after its approval by the Governer.

TESTIMONY.

Taken before Congressional Committee at Havana, Cuba and Key West, Fla., in relation to immigration and quarantine.

STATEMENT OF DR. DANIEL M. BURGESS.

Senator Proctor.—How long have you been here at Havana?

Dr. Burgess.—I have been here twenty-five years.

Senator Proctor.—How long connected with the consulate?

Dr. Burgess.—Most of the time. I am United States Sanitary Inspector of the Marine-Hospital Service.

Senator Proctor.—Under the Treasury Department?

Dr. Burgess.—Yes, sir. Before that I was Sanitary Inspector for the National Board of Health.

Senator Squire.—I would ask the doctor if he has not been connected with the hospital system of Cuba, of this city particularly?

Dr. Burgess.—Yes, sir.

Senator Squire.—Hospitals belonging to the government here?

Dr. Burgess.—Not belonging to the government here; not connected with any government hospital, but with a private hospital.

Senator Proctor.—You have heard the resolutions read describing the obect of our investigation?

Dr. Burgess.—I did not hear them read.

Senator Proctor.—The purpose of our inquiry is to gain information in regard to the danger of importing infectious or epidemic diseases through immigration from the West Indies into Florida and other States, among other things. Will you please give us anything you have in mind with regard to the history of epidemic or infectious diseases being carried from this port to the United States in the past? Do you know that cholera or yellow fever have been so carried and when?

Dr. Burgess.—We have good evidence of yellow fever

having been carried from here to the States repeatedly, to different ports of the United States, to Savannah as late as 1876, to New Orleans, to Charleston, and especially of vessels arriving at New York with yellow fever on board; that has occurred often, and, in fact, at almost every seaport; at Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Charleston, Savannah, Pensacola, New Orleans, and, I think, Mobile. As to the dates of such I shall have to refresh my memory.

Senator Proctor.—If you can furnish us with any dates of statistics with regard to that we would be glad to have you submit a paper any time, while we are here, or if necessary we could give you a longer time. Can you give us any idea as to whether this has been the principal source of yellow fever transmitted to the States?

Dr. Burgess.—As a matter of opinion, almost of information, I should say it had been; I should say oftener than from any other port in the past.

Senator Proctor.—From any other port or from all ports?

Dr. Burgess.—Well, I should not hesitate to make the statement that it had been conveyed as often from this port as from all the other ports put together. I think I am safe in that statement.

Senator Proctor.—Will you tell us what means have been taken in the past, here at the port of departure, to prevent the conveying of contagious diseases to the United States, and whether those methods have been improved upon?

Dr. Burgess.—I could answer that shortly or I could answer it in detail better. I can give you a written statement.

Senator Proctor.—That will be better still. We will give the doctor time to make a written statement if that meets the views of the committee. Do you approve of that, Mr. Stump?

Representative Stump.—It would be much more satisfactory.

Dr. Burgess submitted the following in answer to the above question:—

Portion af a paper which was read by Dr. Burgess at the Montgomery quarantine conference, which answers a question of Senator Proctor.

No person is allowed to go aboard of the vessels re-

ferred to without a permit from the sanitary inspector, and no passenger can purchase a ticket or take passage who has not a health certificate from said inspector. This certificate sets forth that he is acclimated to yellow fever, either by a previous attack or by a continuous residence of several years, five or more, in towns and cities habitually subject to it in an epidemic form, or where it usually prevails endemically, and who has passed through at least one severe epidemic; or that he is a native of places frequently visited by it, and that there is practically no danger of his conveying the disease.

In cases of applicants for health certificates in whom the inspector personally knows the above conditions to exist, and that by virtue of them the person enjoys immunity from yellow fever, there is no reason why a certificate to that effect should not be given at once, or, in other words, his health certificate.

But there are numerous cases which present themselves for a certificate, in which the inspector, in order to satisfy himself that the conditions required exist, has to adopt methods of investigation to corroborate even the sworn statement of the applicant, and the details are very much as follows:

Applicants for "health certificates" in Havana can for convenience be divided into four classes, viz: Foreigners, Spaniards, foreigners who are natives of places where yellow fever occurs frequently and endemically, and Cubans.

First class; as to foreigners.—Their own statements as to length of time passed continuously in places subject to yellow fever, as well as having had the disease, etc., must be supported by the following documentary evidence: Their *cedulas* (a paper), which give a personal description of them, their age, nativity, profession and the place where they habitually reside, and passports; also certificate of the consul of their nation, to the effect that to his knowledge they have made correct statements; certificate of some well-known and respectable business house or banking institution that they are reliably informed of the length of time the applicant has passed in the tropics, and where, and as to his having had yellow fever.

If he claims to have had the disease in question, the legalized certificate of the physician who attended him must be produced, or in case he had it in a hospital, the

certificate of the director of the hospital. In addition, the person is questioned closely, and cross-questioned, in regard to the symptoms he had when taken sick and throughout his illness; how he felt and suffered; in what town he lived at the time, and who attended him; how he was nursed, and other questions, which the investigation suggests, are put.

Second class; as to Spaniards.—They must produce the documents which identify them; such as *cedulas*, passports, etc.

The certificate of the inspector of vessels, stating the time when they arrived on the island.

Another certificate, from the alcalde of the ward in which they live, saying how long they have lived there, and in case of removal, that of other alcaldes, etc. Also certificate of some respectable mercantile or banking house, stating how long they have lived in Cuba, or other provinces, and in what places. If the applicant claims to have had yellow fever, the certificate of the physician who attended him, or that of the hospital in which he may have passed through it, must be produced, with the proper seal attached.

He is questioned, as in the case of class first, what symptoms he had, etc., when he was sick from it, and in some cases satisfactory answers are given, which assist in making a decision.

Third class; foreigners from a country or locality where Yellow Fever exists in an endemic form or habitually.—The certificate of his consul stating that he has lived in such places continuously for many years or is a native of them, or, and in addition, the certificate of a commercial or banking house of good reputation, stating how long he has lived in those localities, and that he is a native of them.

Fourth class; when the applicant is a Cuban.—He must present his *cedula* for his personal identification, which also must state where he was born, his age, and where he lives. Also a certificate from the alcalde of the ward where he resides, saying how long he has lived in ward and city. Furthermore, a certificate from some thoroughly respectable and reliable source that he has lived more than five consecutive years in one of the seaports of the island. All questions pertinent to the examination must be answered candidly, upon honor, or, if deemed necessary, under oath.

The above methods are pursued with all the vigor that the case under investigation may require, until the sanitary inspector feels himself reasonably justified in giving or refusing to grant the health certificate. While not a few are refused, it is a source of satisfaction to be assured that among the several thousands who have received the health certificate and have gone to ports in the United States, in not one instance has yellow fever developed afterward.

This fact is of service in confirming the correctness of the opinion that the passengers were protected from yellow fever.

When smallpox exists at any place on the island these health assurance certificates also certify that the individual from that place is protected from that disease by a former attack of it or by successful vaccination, and that the inspector has revaccinated the individual.

Persons who have never had smallpox or been successfully vaccinated are now vaccinated and detained six or seven days to observe the result of the vaccination, and if this proves to be successful he gets his certificate, but if not successful he is vaccinated again and given a certificate to that effect, and that he is considered safe. It is but just to say in this connection that no person has been known to fall sick with smallpox after getting such a certificate.

To prevent fraud, exchange of certificates and impositions, a system of personal description forms part of the health certificate for some routes, and the passenger is confronted aboard by the inspector with the certificate. Dirty persons are required to take a bath before going aboard. The baggage of passengers must not only be clean but be known to come from houses and hotels in which there is no yellow fever or it will not be received aboard. These houses are visited to ascertain the fact. As soon as the baggage is aboard each article is taken out and separately sprayed over with a solution of bichloride of mercury, 1 part to 1,000, and trunks and other receptacles for it, which have been treated in the same manner, are put in the close, clean hold, and fumigated by the dioxide of sulphur, burning in the process from 3 to 5 pounds of sulphur to each 1,000 cubic feet. When sulphur only is used for disinfecting baggage, etc., the articles are hung up or laid loosely around so that the sulphurous acid gas can reach all parts

of them. The vessel then, without any particular detention, can and usually does proceed to sea while the sulphur fumigation is going on, the hold remaining closed as long as possible—eight hours or more.

No bedding of any description is received, or upholstered furniture, or furniture of any kind, unless it is absolutely new, is taken aboard. No article which can reasonably be suspected of being *fomites* for the conveyance of yellow fever is allowed to be shipped as freight.

The vessels are thoroughly inspected each trip in holds. engine and fire-rooms, bilge spaces, water-closets and urinals, and spaces under and around them, forecastle, glory hole, galley, pantry, cupboards, drawers and recesses, wash rooms, office-rooms, state rooms and cupboards in them, apartments for second-class passengers and such conveniences as may be provided for them, the bedding of the ship, the condition of decks and other surfaces; in short, all parts of the ship. Good ventilation in all apartments must be maintained (when fumigation is not going on) by all the means made for that purpose in the construction of the vessel and by wind-sails.

When the quarantine or dangerous season begins, the carpets and heavy woolens of winter use are removed.

Although the use of the best disinfectants and germicides known is continued all winter, at this time they are resorted to systematically and in much greater quantity.

All bedding, etc., in the officers' and crews' apartments are, besides the necessary washing, taken out and aired at least once a week, when the ceilings, walls and floors, and all surfaces of the rooms are sponged over or wet down with the usual mercuric solution of 1 part to 1,000, and washed with fresh water and soap.

State-rooms and all apartments for passengers are washed and treated in the same way twice a week, are always after a trip to Havana, and bedding washed, cleaned and aired. All urinals, as well as apparatus for holding them, are kept thoroughly clean and frequently washed with a solution of chloride of lime or zinc.

All other apartments in the vessel are treated in a similar manner.

All water-closets are washed two or three times daily, and much oftener if necessary, employing at this time the standard solution of chloride of lime or a strong solution

of chloride of zinc. Decks and some of the thicker and more exposed wooden floors are holy-stoned frequently, chloride of lime being used in the process.

The bilges and bilge-spaces are cleaned and sponged out every week and treated twice a week alternately with solutions of bichloride of mercury and chloride of lime.

The hold is also whitewashed weekly.

The engine room is kept clean, and the bilge underneath is cleaned every week and treated by disinfectants, while every two days clean sea water is run through the bilge-spaces and pumped out.

As far as practicable the officers and crews of these vessels are composed of acclimated persons, who are prohibited from going ashore or visiting vessels in the harbor without a special permit from the sanitary inspector, and they are individually examined before the vessel leaves the harbor for a port in the United States.

Not one of them has ever been found in the least suffering from any infectious disease now over four years. In the light of what is known of practical disinfection, and the prevention of a vessel becoming invaded by infective disease, it is difficult to see how much more could be done as the methods above mentioned comprise about all that is regarded as most useful in modern maritime sanitation. To enable the sanitary inspector at Havana to be one of the agents in enforcing these restrictions they must not only be required by the port authorities at the vessel's destination, but desired by the agents, the owners, and those interested in her welfare. Such has been the case in regard to some steamers, and such restrictions have enabled them to continue in active service, without one of their crew or one of their passengers ever suffering from infectious disease, or any reasonable suspicion, or proof that they have in any instance conveyed the specific morbific cause of yellow fever.

It is not pretended that the foregoing restrictive methods can, are, or need be carried out in the Harbor of Havana for the security of *all* ports in the United States, and particularly in winter.

The authorities in Havana are propably, as in most other ports, very sensitive to, and jealous of any approach to, or assumption of jurisdiction.

We have no treaty with Spain by virtue of which an

United States sanitary inspector is invested with any particular authority. He can, however, do very much to assist in preventing the introduction of infectious diseases into the United States by ships, because of the maritime and sanitary regulations of the ports of entry, and of the moral support afforded by the consul general of the United States, and the still more important assistance of the authorities at Washington; and, in case of danger, he can sound the note of warning.

The bill of health which all vessels should and are expected to carry is the consular bill of health, and is made out and signed by the sanitary inspector as well as by the consul. Such information is given in the document as will assist the health authorities at the port of entrance in forming an opinion of the sanitary status of the vessel and port from which she sails, and will aid in determining what treatment she should receive. It comprises the sanitary history of the ship; her sanitary condition; what her exposures have been in the harbor from which she proceeds; what has happened to her there; what measures have been taken, if any, to improve her sanitary state; sanitary condition of cargo, if she carries any, and, when she has ballast, what kind and where taken in; sanitary condition of crew and passengers, stating whether they have had sickness or not; the existence in the port of infectious diseases, as yellow fever, asiatic cholera, plague, smallpox, or typhus fever; how many cases, and how many weekly deaths from them, etc.; and all pertinent information which may assist the health authorities at the port of destination.

To enable the inspector to state intelligently as to the truth of what he certifies, it is clear that he must visit and inspect the vessel and examine the crew. Captains, agents and owners now understand this and ask him to go aboard and do whatever is necessary, that they may be provided with the bill of health. When the inspector is invited aboard it is apparent there can be no well-founded complaint of assumption of jurisdiction, however foreign the vessel may be.

He then inspects the vessel in all parts—hold, bilge, the dunnage, ballast, water closets, forecastle, cabin, etc.—and indicates what should be done.

In some instances he is asked what can be done to

make the vessel more acceptable to the health authorities at the port of destination.

There are quite a number of lines which are not only willing but anxious to do everything reasonable within their power to prevent yellow fever getting aboard, or if there is danger of its being aboard in *fomites* to disinfect and destroy the infectious agent at once.

Such lines as Ward's, Morgan's, Plant's and Alexander's are excellent examples. They not only keep their vessels away from wharves and dangerous places, but are willing to cleanse and to use disinfectants in their vessels, cargoes, ballast, bilge, etc.

Others are indifferent to exposure, sacrifice comparative safety to convenience, lay during the very dangerous season of the year at wharves, with their ship's company going any and every where they please, and say, "Oh, we will take our chances;" and that class of captains are ever ready to deny that they have had or have now any sickness aboard.

The key to the sanitary condition of the port of Havana in relation to infectious diseases lies largely in the hospitals, public and private, of which there are eight or ten.

Here the inspector is very vigilant, and here he will usually encounter the sick from vessels and can learn what ships they are from, etc. Frequent visits are made to these institutions.

From what has been stated in this paper it would seem that vessels going to the United States from the port of Havana can, for the convenience of bills of health, be classified into four different classes:

The first class, or "good," would include those vessels which remain in the open bay, keep their crews aboard, and, in short, observe rigidly all the methods of modern maritime sanitation In them the sanitary history, condition, cargo, crew and passengers are all marked good. Sailing vessels would take neither cargo, ballast nor passengers from Havana. It is believed that the most of such vessels could enter ports in the United States at any season without imperiling the health of these ports.

Second class, or "fair," includes such vessels as do not go to wharves, neither are they particular about the use of disinfectants or extreme cleanliness. These may go to

wharves during winter months, in which case they disinfect and cleanse thoroughly.

Third class, which are indicated by "fair only," or "a little suspicious," are those vessels which go to wharves but have not had yellow fever aboard in consequence. Fair only, or a little suspicious, are intended to be synonymous terms.

Fourth class—"suspicious," sometimes "evidently infected," are those which go to wharves in the dangerous season which are known or believed to be infected, or those vessels which, although in the open bay, have become surrounded by infected vessels from the wharf, and in consequence have had yellow fever occur among their crew; and in which little has been done to remedy their insanitary condition.

There is every reason to believe that many vessels, at wharves, become infected in fact, particularly Spanish vessels, which do not reveal their dangerous condition by any sickness existing or having occurred aboard, as their entire crews have immunity from yellow fever by having had it before. Other vessels on entering the harbor immediately discharge all unacclimated persons, and ship new ones only the moment they desire to leave. In such cases there can be no tell-tale incident to betray their actual condition in regard to infection.

It is found that the statements of the officers and crew of the average sailing vessel are so unreliable that the sanintary history must depend to a great extent upon the vigilance and port experience of the inspector himself. Captains have frequently declared that they had no sickness, when the inspector knew and had seen some of their men sick in hospital with yellow fever, and again confronted them aboard convalescent, but still yellow as oranges.

Instances like the following used to occur much oftener than at present:

A Spanish steamer, bound for New Orleans, applied a few years ago for the consular bill of health, presenting that of the local board, in which it was stated that all *were well aboard* and that there was no disease of an infectious or epidemic character in the harbor. I knew that the steamer had been discharging three or four days at an infected wharf, and on going aboard to inspect crew and vessel I

found the chief engineer and two men down with yellow fever. The engineer's case was a rapid and malignant one, for he was already vomiting black and wondering what it was and why he felt so weak in so short a time. The sick were all sent ashore and the engineer died the next day. Here was a vessel about to start for New Orleans with a *clean* bill of health from the Cuban or local board of health, while three of her crew were actually sick and dying of yellow fever aboard.

The unreliable character of bills of health, issuing from local boards of health in some foreign ports, subject to all the influences of social, political and commercial surroundings, which consider only the supposed interest of their own place, is well shown in such an instance as has just been narrated. It also shows that that instrument, to be of protective sanitary value, should be made out by one who not only keeps himself *aucourant* with the prevailing diseases, and particularly any of an infective character, but also with the sanitary condition of the port and the vessels therein. He also should be one whose interests and sympathies are with the people of the port of destination, who has a natural and loyal desire to assist in protecting them from the introduction of infectious and contagious diseases, and who can be held responsible to those who appointed him, and to the country which he serves. In the faithful execution of his mission he often has many disagreeable duties. Where is the sanitarian or quarantine official who at times is not criticised most unjustly and unmercifully and caluminated without sense or reason? Every captain wants what he calls a *clean bill of health*, no matter how infected the city and wharves and his vessel may be. The sickness which may have occurred aboard, and which may have resulted in death from yellow fever in hospital or elsewhere, he calls a bad cold, or the result of the bad care the sailor took of himself. etc., or anything to disguise the facts.

The sanitary inspector frankly, in the consul's bill of health, tells whether, in his opinion, the sanitary condition of the port, and vessels particularly, is good, fair, a little suspicious or suspicious and infected, and thus a hint is given to the authorities at the port of arrival, notwithstanding the principal sources of danger to legitimate shipping, and therefore to ports to which they are bound, are sufficiently indicated for all practical purposes. Standing as I do as a kind of

sanitary lookout, I cannot close this paper, already perhaps tiresome in detail, without referring to a constant source of peril from the introducion of yellow fever into the States of the South, and particularly Florida, infinitely greater than all others put together. I refer to that kind of illicit intercourse which is carried on between the ports of Cuba, principally Havana and Florida, by a class of light-draft, fast-sailing vessels which sail from there in quite large numbers. These have for their ostensible and legitimate business fishing, and they are called viveros or fishing smacks, and while they do quite a fair business in that way, they often do a more paying one in an illegitimate manner by smuggling different articles into the country on whose coasts they hover for both of the above purposes.

No dirtier or worse smelling vessels probably leave the port of Havana; their inside condition and atmosphere being eminently favorable for the reception and growth of such disease germs as thrive under the influence of heat, moisture and filth. Laying, as many of them do while here (and that for a long time frequently) at wharves notoriously dangerous, with an under deposit of sewage and fœcal pollutions, and doubtless infection, every opportunity is given the cause of yellow fever to get aboard and render the little craft a vile storehouse of infectious disease. Moreover, there is reason to believe that young men recently arrived from Spain, and totally unacclimated, are at times shipped as some of the crew.

The articles which this class of vessels can smuggle into Florida and Mexico to the greatest advantage are cigars, aguardiente, or rum, gin, wine, fruit, etc. The inducement to smuggle aguardiente and rum is very great, as the spirit which costs only 25 or 30 cents a gallon in Havana pays a duty of $2 a gallon in the United States.

The method of doing these two branches of business, viz.: fishing and smuggling, is an open secret at Havana, and the fishing fraternity, when they have a little confidence in the person to whom they are talking, say very frankly that it is not a difficult thing at all to smuggle their stuffs into Florida or Mexico, and there is but little danger in it.

These vessels clear, or rather leave port, with a simple permit to go out and fish on the high seas or along the coast. Being small of size and resembling coasters they

go out at any time (usually at night), but no one knows when or where bound.

Once outside of the Moro Castle some of them may go and fish in the waters up about Cardenas and Sagna, others to the banks of Yucatan, while a large number will try to better their fortunes in the waters and inlets of Florida. Some of those for Florida may transfer their goods to confederates among that line of keys which terminates at the Tortugas, while others will go farther up and hover around the coast of the mainland, all the way from Punta Rassa, Charlotte Harbor, up past Tampa, and even on beyond Cedar Keys.

Here they are on the alert, waiting a favorable opportunity to dispose of what they have, either to confederates or make an unlawful incursion into some of the many inlets, bayous and passes on that coast. Once inside they communicate with the people or settlements they may know, interchange visits and commodities; friends sleep aboard, articles are carried ashore, and, it is feared, infective disease brought in with them from Havana.

I am credibly informed of these methods, and that many outside of fishing and smuggling circles know of them. Captains of steamers running along the coast from Charlotte Harbor to Tampa, etc., tell me that they often see about day break this class of vessels, which they know to be Spanish, coming out of the inlets, bayous and passes. They have no business there, except to smuggle. If this smuggling was limited to articles of commerce it would be bad enough, but when terrible infective disease is smuggled into the midst of an unsuspecting people in this manner it is in the highest degree culpable.

Florida, with an extent of seacoast greater than that of any other State bordering on the Atlantic or Gulf, is more exposed by these smugglers than any other State in the Union.

A condition of things has increased this illegal business very much within the last few years. Several years ago Spain put so high a duty on the importation of live fish from the States that the many fishing smacks which, up to that time, had been doing a nice paying live-fish business from Key West and other places of Florida, were obliged to suspend business. A large portion of those little vessels were then sold to live-fish merchants in Havana, and since

then there have been not less than fifty of these light-draft, fast-sailing vessels going out of the harbor of Havana. Being nearly all built in the United States, in American waters, they are taken for American vessels till they are made to show their papers.

During that period, or the last five years, a large and rapidly increasing population has appeared in Florida, and particularly on the Gulf coast, which requires the very articles to be found in Havana.

It is well known that where there is a demand for an article the article is very sure to be obtained in some way, either by fair or foul means.

Finally, I would say, that in view of the facts stated, and as a result of my personal observation as sanitary inspector at Havana, I am decidedly of the opinion that one or more lines of steamers to Florida ports, under proper sanitary supervision, and all the restrictions mentioned in the first part of this paper, whereby danger of their conveying the disease is reduced to a minimum, will do much to suppress this illegal traffic, by transporting the articles required.

The danger of introducing infectious disease by such steamers is so small that it cannot for one moment be compared to that infinitely greater one by the smuggling by vessels referred to.

Senator Proctor.—I would be glad to have the doctor state briely now, what are the present regulations?

Dr. Burgess.—During what is regarded as the dangerous season of the year a system of certification has been adopted, particularly by the State of Florida. Florida was rather the pioneer in the matter.

Senator Proctor.—Requiring certificates to be brought from the authorities here?

Dr. Burgess.—No, sir, not from the authorities here; from a representative of the United States.

Senator Squire.—Are these three papers which I show you, blank certificates, such as you speak of?

Dr. Burgess.—Yes, sir.

The blank certificates read as follows:

HEALTH AND ACCLIMATION CERTIFICATE.

HAVANA, CUBA, ——— ——, 189—.

This is to certify, that ——— ———, a native of

———, and a resident of ———, color ———, years of age, ——, sex ———, has produced satisfactory proof to me that —— has had yellow fever or is acclimated to it by long residence in towns and cities where it has prevailed in recent years, that —— is protected from small-pox by successful vaccination or a previous attack of the disease, and that —— is in good health at the present time.

And I further declare my belief that —— is sufficiently acclimated to the diseases of the tropics, so that —— presence threatens no danger from yellow fever, cholera or small pox.

——— ———, *M. D.*,
M. H. S.

[SEAL.]

[Form 17,]

ACCLIMATION CERTIFICATE.

OFFICE OF SANITARY AGENT
OF THE STATE BOARD OF HEALTH OF FLORIDA,
HAVANA, CUBA, ——— ——, 189—.

This is to certify that ——— ———, a native of ———, and a resident of ———, color ———, years of age ———, has produced satisfactory proof to me that —— has had yellow fever, or is acclimated to it by —— years' residence in the island of Cuba or by —— years' residence in cities and towns where it has recently prevailed; that —— is protected from smallpox by successful vaccination or an attack of the disease, and that —— is in good health at the present time. And I further declare my belief that —— is sufficiently acclimated to the diseases of the tropics so that —— presence threatens no danger from yellow fever, cholera, or smallpox.

[The applicant may be required to swear to the truth of the statements if the officer issuing this certificate so desires.]

PERSONAL DESCRIPTION OF BEARER.

[To be used in summer months or when disease is epidemic.]

Height, —— feet —— inches. Weight, —— pounds. Bald, yes, no. Hair, straight, curly; black, white, red, brown, mixed. Mustache, no, yes; white, red, brown, black. Chin beard, yes, no; white, red, brown, black. Side whiskers, yes, no; white, red, brown, black, Size, large, small. Form, full, slender.

[SEAL.]

——— ———

HEALTH CERTIFICATE.

HAVANA, CUBA, ——— ———, 189—.

This is to certify, that ——— ———, a native of ——— and a resident of ———, color, ———, years of age, ———, sex, ———, has produced satisfactory proof to me that ——— has been in neither Europe, Asia or Africa, or any place where Cholera Asiatica exists for the last ——, and that ——— is in good health at the present time.

———— ————, *M. D.*,
U. S. Sanitary Inspector, M. H. S.

Senator Call.—These certificates are given by you, are they not?

Dr. Burgess.—Yes, sir.

Senator Proctor.—There are three different forms, are there?

Dr. Burgess.—They are different in form, according to where they are going. Florida requires a different form than New York. The one headed "Health Certificate" is simply with reference to cholera. That is a recent one. There are people, for instance, whom New York would receive if they knew they had not been exposed to cholera or were not immigrants, that perhaps would not be received by the State of Florida because they were not acclimated to yellow fever.

Senator Proctor.—Can you tell us whether cholera has ever been transmitted from here to the United States?

Dr. Burgess.—No, sir; I cannot tell that. It has been here. It has not been here, I think, since 1872. Am I right, Mr. Williams?

Mr. Williams.—Yes, I think so. We have had some scares since that, but I think not the disease.

Dr. Burgess.—In southern Europe and around the Mediterranean they had it when it did not get here. It certainly has not been in any part of the island for the last two years.

Senator Proctor.—Has it ever been in the States when it has not been here; that is, to any extent, I mean?

Dr. Burgess.—You mean in the States without getting here?

Senator Proctor.—Yes.

Dr. Burgess.—Well, it was in the United States this last year.

Senator Proctor.—I say, to any extent?

Dr. Burgess.—No; I do not think so.

Senator Proctor.—Can you say when it has been both here and in the United States, whether it has oftener been here first?

Dr. Burgess.—My opinion just now is that it has oftener been in the States first.

Senator Squire.—I would like to ask whether in the opinion of Dr. Burgess, there is any reason for the United States to take measures to prevent the introduction of cholera from this port into the United States in case very severe restrictive measures are adopted or continued as to the Northern ports; whether it is likely or probable that immigration into the United States by way of Cuba would go on to such an extent as to render it desirable that the United States should legislate to prevent it, having in mind the repressive measures in the Northern ports?

Dr. Burgess.—I can easily understand, if severe measures were adopted in the Northern ports of the United States against cholera, that this route through here would be tried. Individual instances were tried during this last fall. They openly stated to me that they came here to get to the United States, to avoid detention at New York and other places. These men wanted to get into Florida, New Orleans, etc., but they were unsuccessful. That was checked by the certificate system I have referred to.

Senator Proctor.—If severer restrictions were put on at our Northern ports than here you think it would lead to quite an immigration through this gateway, or an attempt?

Dr. Burgess.—Yes; an attempt undoubtedly would be made if they thought it would be successful.

Senator Proctor.—Under what authority are the regulations here; under the city or the general authority of the island?

Dr. Burgess.—In the first place, there is a superior board of health, as it is called; that is over the whole island. Then there is a provincial board over each province. Then in each town there are local boards of health. There is in Havana a local board.

Senator Call.—Established by authority of the captain-general?

Dr. Burgess.—These different boards of health are

nominated by the governor-general, the civil governor and the mayor, respectively.

Senator Call.—What are the conditions of the public health here? Is it a place where epidemic diseases are likely or liable to exist from the natural sanitary conditions which prevail here?

Dr. Burgess.—Very likely from conditions that do prevail here, not from natural conditions. I think Havana ought to be one of the healthiest cities in the world. Under the present conditions I think it is a favorable place for the increase and spread of epidemic diseases.

Senator Call.—With regard to cholera?

Dr. Burgess.—Cholera particularly.

Senator Dubois.—Are these epidemic diseases, including cholera, which you speak of as having occurred here, generated here as a rule, or are they brought here?

Dr. Burgess.—Cholera is never generated here, the legitimate Asiatic cholera.

Senator Dubois.—Is yellow fever, as a rule, generated here?

Dr. Burgess.—It is here and it continues here. At the same time, I think it ought to be stamped out here.

Senator Dubois.—Is it brought here and started here?

Dr. Burgess.—We have it brought here and it starts here. There was a time here when we have no historical evidence that it existed, but that was over a hundred years ago, perhaps. For the last fifty years it has never been away from here.

Senator Dubois.—Of course, you understand that there is a great deal of uneasiness in the United States as to the cholera getting there, on account of it having broken out last year in Europe. Is there any particular uneasiness here, and are you taking any extraordinary measures to prevent it from coming here?

Dr. Burgess.—Well, the measures that are being taken here are mainly of a quarantine character—not letting vessels come in here that have it.

Senator Dubois.—Are they more stringent than your usual quarantine regulations?

Dr. Burgess.—I think they are pretty stringent; I think as good as any quarantine, except in the case of certain privileged lines—for instance, the Spanish mail line. I think when sent to Mariel, thirty miles away, they are

probably as good as any quarantine, but when detained in the harbor I should have very little confidence in that measure. By quarantine here I only mean detention. The regular rules, if carried out, leave scarcely anything discretionary with the health officer. For instance, if a vessel comes from the port of Havre, and there has been a case of cholera, I think, in Havre, that would share the same fate as a vessel from Hamburg. And these restrictions vary some according to the activity of the disease there. The quarantine here is from seven to twenty days at Mariel. If they come from simply suspected ports, or ports where cholera seems not to be very active, they sometimes will keep them for three days under observation here in the harbor. There may be one or two vessels out there now. There was one from Antwerp not more than two or three days ago. The main restrictive measures—the main measures—to keep cholera out of the ports of the island of Cuba are about of that character. There is very little else done.

Senator Dubois.—Besides quarantine, you mean?

Dr. Burgess.—Yes, sir.

Senator Dubois.—There are no unusual quarantine measures being talked of now on account of cholera, nothunusual in the methods which are being used to prevent cholera, nothing extreme?

Dr. Burgess.—Nothing in that line being done. There is a great deal being agitated through the newspapers and among sanitarians, but it has not taken any practical form yet.

Senator Squire.—With regard to these certificates I understand that the Government of Spain is requiring from the people, called *cedula;* what do those cover?

Dr. Burgess.—That is to identify the person; covers his birthplace, his residence, his nationality, his occupation, and there is a descriptive list on that *cedula* describing the person, and there is often considerable more of it.

Senator Call.—That has no relation to disease, has it?

Dr. Burgess.—It is a revenue and police measure.

Senator Squire.—I was going to ask if there is no connection whatever between this *cedula* and the business of immigration.

Dr. Burgess.—Not a bit that I can understand.

Senator Squire.—Or with reference to sanitary measures?

Dr. Burgess.—No, I think not; it is not of that character.

Senator Proctor.—You speak of the conditions here not being favorable to shutting out cholera. Do you refer to the laxness of the public precautions, or the habits of the people, or to what especially? What are the especial dangerous conditions?

Dr. Burgess.—Well, there are a number. In the first place the sewerage of the city is worse than none at all; and fortunately in one sense, probably not more than one quarter of the city has sewers. I refer to the fact that all of the deposits, water-closet refuse, excrement, etc., remains in holes in the ground within the enclosures of the house, and remains there to ferment. There is another thing; I would say at the present time, the municipal authorities, so far as I can see, are doing very little to keep things clean in the city, to keep the streets clean. You can see that yourselves.

Senator Proctor.—Neither the general nor the municipal authorities are taking the steps that you would think necessary to avoid disease and make the city safe?

Dr. Burgess.—Neither.

Senator Call.—So that the cholera, if brought here, would find conditions peculiarly favorable to it?

Dr. Burgess.—I think so.

Senator Proctor.—The laxness of the authorities would tend to breed individual carelessness; the people would not naturally be more careful than the officials?

Dr. Burgess.—I think the people generally are far ahead of the authorities in that respect. I think the people generally are very much in favor of sanitary improvement. Don't you think so, Mr. Williams?

Mr. Williams.—Yes, sir; they are about all in favor of it; there are a great many expressions of sentiment in that direction.

Senator Proctor.—These suggestions are not carried out?

Dr. Burgess.—No; these suggestions fall to the ground.

Senator Call.—Then you would say that there was

very great danger, in case of a severe epidemic of cholera in Europe, of its finding a lodging here?

Dr. Burgess.—I can say that all that would keep it out is what I have stated.

Senator Call.—And its importation from here into Florida and the States; that is what we want to know.

Dr. Burgess.—I am inclined to think if it should get into Havana, unless active restrictive measures were taken, that there would be a good deal of danger of its getting into Florida in particular, and New Orleans, perhaps, and maybe in New York; but far more into Florida.

Senator Call.—If it gets into Florida, of course it goes everywhere. There is a line going direct to New York.

Representative Covert.—Assuming that a bill will be presented to Congress and action taken in this matter, what suggestions have you, if any, as to the precautions that should be adopted, taking the port of Havana as an instance, for the protection of the people of the United States?

Dr. Burgess.—Complete protection would be afforded by a plant of steam and sulphur dioxide fumigation and disinfection at Havana, operated by the United States, and requiring vessels and the baggage of passengers and some cargo to undergo this disinfection before leaving for any port in the United States; and certificates to passengers. Vessels failing to submit to this to be viewed as suspicious and held in quarantine or shut out at port in the United States.

Senator Gibson.—Involved in this inquiry, and especially with reference to cholera, have you any objections to giving your views as to the strength or weakness of the Spanish quarantine at this port?

Dr. Burgess.—I should say it was imperfect. It is strong in one direction. It is strong in the direction of keeping certain vessels away, and as long as we are not going to have cholera here unless it is brought here, that is of importance. I think they are going to be very rigid and severe on certain vessels.

Senator Gibson.—The point is as to the importation of cholera into the United States. As I understand, the likelihood of its introduction depends largely upon the uses which will be made of the Spanish ports in Cuba; hence I propose this last inquiry as to the strength or weakness of the quarantine regulations in Spanish ports. You say they are imperfect?

Dr. Burgess.—I say they are imperfect; I think they are irregular and imperfect.

Senator Squire.—You spoke about the Royal Line from Spain being treated more leniently than any other.

Dr. Burgess.—Yes; that is shown frequently by the smallpox coming in here on those steamers.

Senator Squire.—How about sailing vessels?

Dr. Burgess.—Sailing vessels are dealt with pretty rigidly as a rule; they are kept away.

Senator Gibson.—Can you make any statement with reference to the number and the names of the Spanish lines of steamships?

Dr. Burgess.—There is the mail line; there is a line of which Blanch & Co. are consignees. There are two regular lines, anyhow, and then there are French and German steamers which stop at ports in Spain, and there are irregular steamers coming here very often.

Senator Gibson.—How about Italian steamers?

Dr. Burgess.—There are regular trading lines to and from Europe; from Liverpool.

Senator Gibson.—No tramp Italian steamers?

Dr. Burgess.—I do not know of any.

Senator Squire.—Are there steamers that touch at ports in various countries—Austria, Germany and elsewhere?

Dr. Burgess.—There are steamers that do this and have been doing it for the last year, not with great regularity, but doing it, bringing immigrants from Spain and Italy, or rather taking them through here, bringing some here; a certain portion of them would be for Havana and the remainder for Mexico, and these vessels have discharged their passengers at Vera Cruz and gone on to New Orleans.

Senator Squire.—I have been told that Russians get onto these tramp steamers and come through the Mediterranean to the United States.

Dr. Burgess.—I think that is done to some extent.

Senator Gibson.—Do you express any opinion as to whether there should be more caution exercised with reference to quarantine regulations as against Spanish laborers than against ordinary immigrants coming through Spanish ports into the United States.

Dr. Burgess.—Native Spaniards are no more acclimated to yellow fever than are you gentlemen coming from New York or Wisconsin.

Senator Gibson.—From Cuba?

Dr. Burgess.—If they have been here and can furnish evidence that they have had the yellow fever, then they are acclimated, as we call it, and we let them go.

Senator Gibson.—Would you recommend any stricter quarantine against the Spanish laborers, as a class, than against any other class?

Dr. Burgess.—I would recommend a closer examination of the man. I would recommend closer investigation as regards the proof of being acclimated to the yellow fever.

Senator Call.—Isn't there a large intercourse in fishing smacks between here and the coast of Florida?

Dr. Burgess.—Yes, sir.

Senator Call.—Have you any idea of the number?. It is a regular trade, isn't it?

Dr. Burgess.—I should judge, without having any positive definite data, that there are not far from fifty fishing smacks here in this harbor that ply the trade to different ports. Some go to Yucatan and work along there, and some go up the coast; but I should judge that nearly half of them do a large business between this and Florida.

Senator Call.—If cholera were epidemic here would there not be very great danger of the importation of the disease through the fishing smacks?

Dr. Burgess.—It might be so; it might be a dangerous thing. I regard these fishing smacks as dangerous to Florida anyhow, that is if there is cholera here. In the winter there is not much from yellow fever, but there is in summer. They frequently will have a portion of the crew of unacclimated persons. Young fellows will come here from Spain entirely unacclimated; they get them very cheap; the one or two who control the business will take these fresh ones from Spain as a portion of their crews, and I have a good deal of evidence that every now and then then they bury one over on the keys, etc., about Florida, who has died from Yellow Fever.

Senator Call.—That would be equally true of cholera, would it not?

Dr. Burgess.—Yes; I see no reason why it would not be true of cholera. These fishing smacks go out generally

simply with a permit to fish, and not a clearance to any particular port, and once out they go where they like.

Senator Call.—I would suggest that it would be very desirable to have some interview with members of the Spanish board of health here. It is an international matter.

Senator Proctor.—I think it would be well, and if it meets the views of the committee we will endeavor to arrange it.

Representative Stump.—A person who is in the incipient stages of cholera, that has not developed, how long would it take to develop it on him?

Dr. Burgess.—From exposure?

Representative Stump.—No. How long would it take the disease to develop upon one who is in the incipient stages?

Dr. Burgess.—You may have cholerine and have it pass away as cholerine, or it may go on and develop into full grown cholera. The time is rather indefinite. A man may run with the diarrhœa and cholerine as it is termed, perhaps two, three or four days, and he may perhaps weather that and it pass off; and then it may, within one, two, three or four or five days, develop into cholera as you term it. I do not think it is possible to answer your question very definitely. However, I should think if a man had cholerine for four or five days or something like that and it did not develop into cholera he would be pretty likely to escape. At the same time I would like to say that perhaps those dejections, if it were true cholerine and premonitory to cholera, might become dangerous to other people, and almost as dangerous perhaps as those from a full-blown case.

Representative Stump.—I speak with reference to its being sufficiently developed to be ascertained by inspection; how long a time would it take?

Dr. Burgess.—You have reference to a bacteriological investigation?

Representative Stump.—No; if he has cholerine you can detect that by inspection?

Dr. Burgess.—I know of no way except by examination by the microscope. I would have an opinion, but not one that I could swear by, because I know of no way, and I do not think there is any way known, of being positive

in that condition of cholerine that it is going to be a case of cholera, without the bacteriological proof.

Representative Stump.—Would the detention of the party for six or eight days be sufficient to indicate whether he had or had not cholera or cholerine?

Dr. Burgess.—I think if I had a case of diarrhœa that had kept on six or eight days and had not developed into cholera, I should hardly think it would.

Representative Stump.—Do not medical authorities teach us that five or six days is the period for its development?

Dr. Burgess.—It may be so. As I said before, if a case presumably of cholerine, a case of diarrhœa, should be continued five or six days without developing into anything more, I should believe that that man had not cholera.

Representative Stump.—Then you think that a quarantine of five or six days would be sufficient?

Dr. Burgess.---It certainly would in the absence of diarrhœa.

Representative Stump.---Then why would you detain a person twenty days?

Dr. Burgess.---If you can have the person isolated I see no reason.

Representative Stump.—With a person isolated five or six days, under the observation of a physician, would be amply sufficient, would it not?

Dr. Burgess.—Yes, separate him from all his former environments.

Representative Stump.—If you have a large enough space could you not quarantine a hundred as well as one?

Dr. Burgess.—You could.

Senator Squire.—Suppose that a case of cholera develops during those five or six days; that, of course would complicate the case?

Dr. Burgess.—Yes, sir.

Senator Squire.—Then suppose at a later time there is a further development; this projects itself along; in order to exhaust the subject and make it plain, is it not better to take a greater number of days than five or six days for one individual case?

Dr. Burgess.—Yes, sir.

Representative Stump.—The object of my question was this: I see that you state on your certificate "I further de-

clare my belief that he is sufficiently acclimated in the diseases of the tropics so that his presence threatens no danger from yellow fever, cholera or smallpox." What acclamation in the tropics would secure a man from cholera?

Dr. Burgess.—None.

Representative Stump.—Then that certificate should not embrace cholera?

Dr. Burgess.—To be more exact it could have been stated differently. I think cholera is inserted there as a kind of evidence that there is watchfulness for these epidemic diseases; but it is not very well worded I think. You lawyers could make very much better ones, doubtless.

Representative Stump.—I only wanted to arrive at how long a residence in Cuba would be necessary to be a guaranty that the person should not have cholera in the United States?

Dr. Burgess.—Cholera is included among these diseases, but the certificate, is used mainly in the matter of yellow fever fom here.

Representative Stump—Would you not think that if the intended emigrant was quarantined for five or six days at the port of departure, and then inspected daily aboard ship coming over to the United States, on a voyage of, say ten days, and did not develop cholera, would you not think that the United States was secure from that party disseminating it?

Dr. Burgess.—And his baggage fumigated.

Representatiue Stump.—Before he goes aboard ship, and the ship fumigated before he is allowed to go upon the ship.

Dr. Burgess.—If all of that work is thoroughly done all the way through I should think so.

Representative Covert.—Would you leave that to the steamship company on the other side to do and then take much stock in it?

Dr. Burgess.—No, I would not have a great deal of confidence in parties who are interested financially.

Representative Covert.—You would not leave it to the steamship companies?

Dr. Burgess.—No.

Representative Stump.—A United States consul at the port of departure going upon these vessels, and the consul

himself inspecting the quarantine every week, he having control over the vessel, and also making his report to the Secretary of the Treasury weekly in regard as to how the quarantine has been carried out; how would that be?

Dr. Burgess.—That is far more secure.

Representative Stump.—And I think that you occupy a position somewhat similar here; that you yourself could guarantee against cholera, under these regulations, going into the United States?

Dr. Burgess.—I should work for it. That is the way I am working now.

Representative Wright.—Would you be willing to quarantine a ship here yourself seven days and then guarantee that no cholera would get into the United States on that ship?

Dr. Burgess.—If they would be willing to give Mr. Williams and me sufficient power in the matter I would be willing to stake my reputation on it.

Senator Squire.—How many consuls are there and how many physicians, taking the consular agents and all the retinue of people in that order of business throughout the world, and in Europe particularly, who would carry out such regulations as efficiently as these two gentlemen? That is the question.

Representative Wright.—Would there not be a natural desire on the part of these consuls to placate the people among whom they are living?

Representative Stump.—I should be very sorry for our country if we had not many Dr. Burgesses.

Representative Wright.—If cholera were epidemic in Havana and a steamer load of emigrants embarked for Key West, how many days' quarantine would you consider necessary for the whole party before you would certify that they might be admitted into said port without any danger of infection to the people there?

Dr. Burgess.—If none of the party were sick or developed suspicious symptoms of cholera seven days after leaving Havana I would give *pratique*, first having thoroughly disinfected the baggage by steam. If anyone did develop suspicious symptoms I would have him and those having communication with the suspected individual in insulation until satisfied one way or the other. The balance of the company showing no suspicious symptoms would be liber-

ated after seven days. In other words, the ship then would stand in the same relation to the well passengers as the city of Havana with cholera patients.

OFFICE OF THE CONSUL-GENERAL
OF THE UNITED STATES,
HAVANA, Thursday, December 29, 1892.

Present, Senators Proctor, Dubois, Call, Squire, Gibson; Representatives Stump, Covert, Coburn, Wright.

STATEMENT OF DR. JOSEPH Y. PORTER.

Senator Proctor.—Please give us your residence, your official relations, and the length of time you have been in the service?

Dr. Porter.—I am State Health Officer of Florida, and have been since 1889, in March or April. Before that, since 1885, have been connected with health matters in Florida as president of the county board of health for the county of Monroe.

Senator Proctor.—That is, at Key West?

Dr. Porter.—Yes, sir

Senator Squire.—What else does the county of Monroe include besides Key West?

Dr. Porter.---It includes Tortugas and the Keys up as far as Cape Florida.

Senator Squire.---And some of the mainland?

Dr. Porter.---Very little of it. I do not know as it includes very much now; it used to take in a good deal of the mainland, but the Legislature of 1889, I think it was, divided the county, and the county of Monroe is principally the island of Key West and the adjacent islands up as far as Cape Florida and down to Tortugas.

Senator Proctor.---You were present yesterday and heard the course of inquiry in regard to the danger of infection from this island. Please give any statements in your own way in regard to the danger, the means which have been taken in the past, and the means that should be taken to prevent it.

Dr. Porter.---I believe the question was asked yesterday as to the possibility of cholera getting into the United States through this port, if immigration was shut out from Northern ports. Of course, it can not be contradicted or

denied that there is a possibility of this tide of immigration being directed this way, but I do not think there is any very great probability of it.

Senator Squire.---Have we not seen statements published to the effect that intending emigrants coming from Europe to the United States have been vainly seeking opportunity to get into the United States through the ordinary routes of travel to the North, and is it not natural that they should try to get in this way if they thought there was any laxity on the part of the regulations here?

Dr. Porter.---Of course, I could not pretend to say that there would not. I give my opinion that they would not get in. Whether they would seek to get in or not, I would not say.

Senator Squire—You think they could not get in?

Dr. Porter—I do not think they could get in under the present system of regulations.

Senator Squire—You speak with reference to the restrictions about entering Florida?

Dr. Porter—Yes; I am speaking especially with reference to the health department which I represent.

Senator Squire—You do not know how far that might be true of New Orleans?

Dr. Porter.—Only that I know that New Orleans has a system of surveillance and detention, and that detention lasts at least five days from leaving the port of Havana.

Senator Squire.—In the summer?

Dr. Porter.—In the summer; yes, sir.

Senator Proctor.—The yellow fever has been transmitted from here to the mainland, has it not—to Florida?

Dr. Porter.—Yes, sir; in years gone by.

Senator Proctor.—More than once?

Dr. Porter.—Yes, sir; several times. It has not been transmitted to Florida, to my knowledge, since 1887.

Senator Proctor.—Do you think the present regulations here and in Florida are sufficient or the best that could be adopted for prevention?

Dr. Porter.—I think that the regulations that are now in force during the quarantine season, between the 1st of May and the 1st of November—I am speaking more especially now with reference to yellow fever—are the best that could be adopted to prevent the introduction of yellow fever into Florida, and at the same time will interfere as

little as possible with the commercial relations between Florida and Cuba.

Senator Proctor—You speak now of the means adopted in Florida especially, do you?

Dr. Porter.—Yes, sir.

Senator Proctor.—You consider this, do you not, a dangerous point, peculiarly liable to contagious disease, cholera and yellow fever?

Dr. Porter.—Yes, sir; yellow fever more especially than cholera, because cholera is not endemic here and yellow fever is.

Senator Proctor.—Do you think all the necessary precautions are used here to prevent the spread of contagious diseases to our ports?

Dr. Porter.—I think that the United States authorities, co-operating with the State authorities through Dr. Burgess, have taken all necessary precautions.

Senator Proctor.—Looking after the possible introduction of disease from this point into Florida?

Dr. Porter.—Yes, sir.

Senator Proctor.—Do I understand you to say that you think everything has been done, is being done, and will be done, if the same system is continued—everything that is possible?

Dr. Porter.—What I mean to say is, that I think the danger of the introduction of yellow fever from this place into Florida, under the present system of surveillance and certificate, is reduced to a minimum. I do not mean to say that it is absolute protection, because I do not think there can be absolute protection without shutting out all communication. Absolute nonintercourse will insure absolute protection, but as long as communication must be kept up—and it will be kept up—I think the present system of certificates and surveillance as exercised, and which is operated by the United States Government through Dr. Burgess, the sanitary inspector here, and the State health authorities, has reduced that risk of the introduction of yellow fever from Havana into Florida to a minimum.

Senator Squire.—What do you say about cholera?

Dr. Porter.—Cholera is not endemic here.

Senator Squire.—Suppose that cholera should get into Havana, as it is thought by many it is likely to do, if it keeps on its way westerly in Europe; how then with regard

to the relations between Florida and this city under the present system?

Dr. Porter.—I can answer that question in this way. I will tell you what it was proposed to do by the health authorities of Florida last summer. The understanding with Dr. Burgess was that if any vessel arrived here with cholera on board he would immediately notify the health authorities of Florida, and all communication between Havana and Florida would cease.

Senator Proctor.—What do you say about the communication by these fishing smacks? Is not there danger in these vessels that go out without any clearance to a Florida port?

Dr. Porter.—The regulations in Florida are such that if a vessel comes in there without a consular bill of health from this place she is put into quarantine, and if she has passengers on board that have not the certificate of Dr. Burgess she is placed under quarantine also. A vessel coming into Florida during the quarentine season from Havana that does not conform to the rules and regulations of the Florida State Board of Health in the particulars of not lying over night in the harbor of Havana, not having an unacclimated crew, and several other things that you can see by reference to the maritime regulations of the State Board of Health of Florida, is placed in quarantine. Vessels coming into Florida ports from this port are required to have their crew acclimated to yellow fever, and that acclimation is settled by Dr. Burgess.

Senator Proctor.—I suppose these vessels might meet and fish on the same banks with Florida vessels and the crews mingle?

Dr. Porter.—Yes; that is all possible.

Senator Proctor.—Is there any way to guard against that?

Dr. Porter.—The way to guard against that is by a coast patrol. And I would like to say right here that immediately after the State Board of Health of Florida was organized a request was sent to the Treasury Department, through the Marine-Hospital Service, for this coast patrol, asking to have it, and not only once but two or three times.

Senator Squire.—Has that been granted?

Dr. Porter.—No, sir; except in this way, we have been

informed that a revenue cutter has been instructed to cruise up and down the coast.

Senator Proctor.—What is the Florida system of protection from contagious diseases? What is the organization of the board of health with which you are connected?

Dr. Porter.—The organization consists of three citizens of the State appointed by the governor, and they appoint the health officer, who is the secretary and executive officer of the board, and is known as the State Health Officer. They have full power and control over health matters in the State. They have authority to place any and all restrictions they may think necessary upon railway and navigation companies to prevent their bringing in disease or conveying persons with disease. In fact, their authority is very ample.

Senator Proctor.—Have you a copy of the act establishing your board of heath?

Dr. Porter.—I have not with me, but I will furnish the committee with a copy.

Senator Squire.—Allow me to ask if the document I show you contains the regulations of the State Board of Health of Florida for quarantine and maritime medical inspection.

Dr. Porter.—Yes, sir; these are the rules of the State Board.

Senator Squire.—Would it not be well to put these regulations into the record?

Senator Proctor.—We will do so.

Dr. Porter.—I will state with regard to these that there have been one or two additions to the rules since this was printed. I will furnish the committee with a later print.

Senotor Proctor.—The expense of these measures is borne by the State?

Dr. Porter.—Yes.

Senator Proctor.—Is there any specific revenue to meet it; any assessment of the vessels that are inspected?

Dr. Porter.—The custom prevails in Florida, as it does in all other ports of the United States, that vessels pay a certain fee for their inspection, disinfection and fumigation.

Senator Proctor.—Is that sufficient in Florida to defray the expense of the Board?

Dr. Porter.—No, sir; it has not been yet.

Senator Proctor.—It is really, to quite an extent, then, a tax upon the State?

Dr. Porter.—Yes, sir. This year I think that the Mullet Key Quarantine Station will about pay its expenses; but at the other points of observation, Charlotte Harbor, Sarasota, Punta Rassa, Manatee, the expense is borne by the State. The other ports in the State, as Pensacola, Fernandina, Apalachicola, Cedar Keys and Key West, have quarantine regulations operated by the County Boards of Health.

Senator Proctor —Do you consider that a good system, with a part of the ports under the control of the county boards and a part under the State board?

Dr. Porter.—No, I do not; and I think this next Legislature will probably alter it.

Senator Proctor.—Is there any uniformity of system between your State and Alabama, Louisiana, Mobile and New Orleans?

Dr. Porter.—The general principle is the same in Louisiana, Texas and Florida, but the details of operating are somewhat different.

Senator Squire.—How about Mobile?

Dr. Porter.—The same is true of Mobile.

Sonator Proctor.—A national quarantine would seem to secure greater uniformity, would it not?

Dr. Porter,—Yes, sir, it would if the Government would do business as other people do business; but there generally is so much circumlocution, so much delay, so much deferring to higher authority, and so little latitude given to the officials on the spot. If that could all be overcome a general system would be of advantage.

Senator Squire.—As I understand you, if cholera existed in Havana there is no way of preventing its communication to the United States unless the present traffic system is entirely shut down?

Dr. Porter.—I do not mean to say that. There could be a system started right here in the harbor of Havana which would be the thing to be desired of all others, if the concession could be had from the Spanish Government, and that is what the sanitarians in Florida have been advocating for a great many years, that this inspection, fumigation and disinfection should be done at the port of departure. If it were possible to get the concession from the Spanish

Government allowing the United States Government to operate a plant here of steam disinfection and sulphur dioxide fumigation, that would be the thing of all others to be wished for and would make the system perfect.

Senator Squire.—Without that, then what?

Dr. Porter.—Without that I do not see any other way, if cholera should prevail here in an epidemic form, but to stop all travel.

Senator Squire.—That would be a serious interruption to the business of Key West, would it not?

Dr. Porter.—Yes, sir, it would; and also of Tampa.

Senator Squire.—Do you consider it a feasible thing to get the Spanish authorities to consider that matter? Have you given that matter consideration?

Dr. Porter.—I have had several conversations with Surgeon-General Hamilton on the subject and with other prominent sanitarians of the country, and they seem to think that the Spanish Government would not grant the concession. I do not think it has ever been asked for. But it always has struck me that the place for this inspection and disinfection was at the port of departure; that the passengers should be inspected and their baggage disinfected before they went on board ship, so that the ship might not be infected afterwards.

Senator Squire.—Would that be practicable to an extent sufficiently general with all these different countries?

Dr. Porter.—I do not know how the treaties with the different countries read.

Senator Squire.—It would take some time to negotiate all these arrangements.

Dr. Porter.—Yes, sir; and it would take some time to build quarantine stations all along the coast from Maine to Puget Sound.

Senator Squire.—We have this emergency right on us—within a few months; perhaps two months.

Dr. Porter.—I speak in view of the absence of any protection now, or any protection that you may think is general in its character, and with the difficulties that would arise from delay in providing this protection. It would probably consume a year or two to construct these different stations.

Senator Proctor.—The authority of our consular health officer here, we understand, only extends to issuing certificates to individuals, and would not extend to any means of prevention by fumigation; would not extend over the vessel. Is that correct?

Dr. Porter.—Dr. Burgess can answer that question.

DR. BURGESS—RECALLED.

Senator Proctor.—Dr. Burgess, will you state whether you have the authority I have suggested?

Dr. Burgess.—Absolute authority, no; but it has been often the case that the vessel desired it; they often desire it to present themselves more favorably at the port in the United States to which they are bound.

Senator Proctor. Please state how much absolute authority you do have, and what right by permission?

Dr. Burgess.—The idea is that it amounts to a bill of health; the cleansing of the vessel, fumigation, disinfection of the vessel must be shown on the bill of health.

Senator Proctor.—What real authority have you in that direction? What power have you by law?

Dr. Burgess.—Perhaps no absolute power except on American vessels.

Senator Call. What power have you on American vessels?

Dr. Burgess. When you come to that matter perhaps I could not coerce them; it is only to create a feeling among shippers that the better condition in which they leave here for the United States, the higher hygienic condition, the more favorable they will be received in the United States; in other words, all these things will be taken into consideration by the health authorities in the United States, and many have been very anxious to have that done. I do not know that there is an absolute authority, but the owners know that they would not receive these passengers in Florida unless they had the certificates.

Senator Proctor. That is a matter of self-interest with the transportation companies. Have there been any cases where you have used any means of disinfecting baggage or vessels?

Dr. Burgess. I have done it, formerly did it, particularly on the line to Florida, by request of the owners of the line and of the health board in Florida previous to the establishing by the State Board of the plant of Florida. It

has been done frequently on the Ward Line in times gone by.

Senator Proctor. As a matter of consent and agreement between the consular authorities, the transportation line and the Cuban authorities?

Dr. Burgess. The health officers in the port of New York desire that the Spanish line that runs to New York should be notified that if anything of that character should be done, consideration would be made in their behalf on arrival there.

Senator Squire. While the doctor is speaking, would it not be well to draw him out with regard to what further effort he thinks ought to be made to get the Spanish Government to consent to any enforcement of regulations?

Senator Proctor. I would be glad to hear any statement the doctor would like to make in regard to that.

Dr. Burgess. I do not know that I could give any information on that point. I suppose that would have to be done from Washington.

DR. PORTER—RECALLED.

Senator Dubois. I would like to ask Dr. Porter a question. We have received some valuable expert testimony from physicians in New York, and assuming that you are entirely familiar with the present phase of the cholera question, and with the workings and details of quarantine, and the laws both of Cuba and of Florida, in your opinion is there much danger of cholera getting into the United States from this port, taking everything into consideration?

Dr. Porter. Under the present state of affairs I do not think there is.

Senator Dubois. Then you would not, of course, make any suggestions as to extra precautions?

Dr. Porter. I would not go so far as that; I would not say that. A good sanitarian always looks ahead for possibilities that may arise, and I think it would be as well to have some understanding or agrement with the Spanish Government with regard to the possibility of cholera getting in here from Europe, and what should be done in case it did.

Senator Dubois. You think, under present conditions, it could be kept from coming through this port; that if

cholera gets into the United States it will come through other ports than this?

Dr. Porter. If it gets into the United States I think it will first come through other ports than this. If it should get into New York I think there is a good deal of probability of its getting down here into Cuba from New York. And it depends altogether upon what part of Europe first becomes infected. If it should prevail to any extent in Spain I think the probability is increased of its getting in here, although I do not remember that when they had it so badly in Spain several years ago there was any cholera introduced here then. Was there, Dr. Burgess?

Dr. Burgess. No; it did not come here.

Senator Dubois. If the United States should pass laws restricting immigration for a year from all ports, excepting American ports, would that change the condition of affairs and make the danger greater of cholera coming in from here, in your judgment?

Dr. Porter. I do not understand.

Senator Dubois. The provisions of one bill before Congress is to restrict immigration for one year, but the American ports are excepted from that; immigrants may come from American ports; this would be one of the ports from which immigrants might come Now, in case the bill is passed as it has been introduced, restricting European immigration and not immigration from Cuba, for instance, would that change the present status? Would there be more danger then of the cholera getting into the United States from this port than at present?

Dr. Porter. No; I do not see that there would be any more danger than at present.

Senator Proctor. If immigration is entirely suspended from European ports, Mr. Dubois wants to know if the danger would not be increased, it not being suspended between European ports and this port; would not the danger of our getting cholera through this port be increased?

Dr. Porter. Oh, yes.

Senator Squire. I will put this question which has been written out and handed me. If Florida allowed passengers or immigrants to enter the State and New York prohibited them, in case of a cholera epidemic what would be the result, and what would the New York quarantine be worth?

Dr. Porter. That would depend altogether upon the the construction of the word "immigrant." If an immigrant is supposed to mean any one not a citizen of the United States, then all of this native Cuban population here not naturalized in the United States would come within the term, would it not? And then another thing, "If Florida allowed immigrants to enter the State and New York prohibited them," Florida would not allow European immigrants to enter the State whether New York prohibited them or not.

Senator Proctor. The point is not European immigrants, but immigrants from here to Florida.

Dr. Porter. That is just exactly what I am trying to get at. These natives here that travel back and forth constantly between Key West and Tampa and Havana, where they are not naturalized citizens of the United States, are immigrants.

Senator Call. It does not make any difference whether a passenger is an immigrant or nor in respect to conveying disease, does it?

Dr. Porter. No, sir.

Senator Call. Then the question is, supposing there is a quarantine in one place and not in another, would not a person wishing to enter the United States, no matter whether he is an immigrant or not, go where the quarantine was least stringent?

Dr. Porter. Do I understand you to mean in the case of a cholera epidemic here?

Senator Call. Suppose it was in Austria or Germany, and there is unrestricted immigration from Germany to this port?

Dr. Porter. So long as there was no cholera breaking out here I do not think we would restrict the native emigrants from here, but we would not allow those from Austria to come into Florida.

Senator Call. How could you discriminate?

Dr. Porter. We would discriminate through my friend, Dr. Burgess.

Senator Call. You could not say that an Austrian could not come in and a Cuban might come.

Dr. Porter. You could say that a person from an infected district could not come.

Senator Call. Under what authority?

Dr. Porter. We have it in our State Board of Health rules and regulations.

Senator Squire. They would come directly from here, would they not?

Dr. Porter. Directly or indirectly.

Senator Squire. You would have to trace them up.

Dr. Porter. We trace up this question of acclimation to yellow fever just that same way.

Senator Call. Supposing Florida has a law by which you may exclude anybody from coming into Florida from an infected district, or one which you suspect to be infected, and Alabama does not have such a law and New York does not, what then is the value of the Florida restriction?

Dr. Porter. Unless they all act in concert it is of no value; but this question was addressed, I thought, more especially to the Florida matter, and therefore I answered it that way.

Senator Call. A citizen of the United States, of course, has a right to enter irrespective of anything except his liability to introduce disease?

Dr. Porter. Yes; if there is a reasonable doubt about his bringing in disease, can he not be prohibited?

Senator Call. Under your statute you might do it.

Dr. Porter. Yes, under our statute we can do it.

Senator Call. Suppose Mississippi or New York has not any such statute, would you not get the cholera into Florida as well as New York from the inefficiency of the quarantine statutes of other States?

Dr. Porter. I think so.

Senator Call. This committee is anxious to devise some system, if possible, which can harmonize with the commercial interests both of Cuba and Florida and elsewhere.

Representative Stump. Do you know of any sanitary reason why, if cholera exists, say, in one or two ports in Europe, there should be an entire suspension of immigration from the whole continent?

Dr. Porter. Any sanitary reason; no, sir, I do not.

Representative Stump. Would you deem it wise and proper, because cholera existed in Hamburg, to pass an act excluding immigration from all the other ports of Europe?

Dr. Porter. No, sir; so long as it was confined to

Hamburg and did not get pretty generally disseminated over the rest of Europe, there would be no reason.

Senator Call. Suppose there was cholera in Cuba, would you advise suspension of all intercourse with Cuba?

Dr. Porter. It depends upon the degree of it.

Senator Call. A virulent epidemic?

Dr. Porter. Yes, sir; if there was a virulent epidemic, I think so, for a stated period.

Senator Call. Until a suspension of the epidemic?

Dr. Porter. Yes, sir; on the same principle that when yellow fever prevails in any State of the United States there is a suspension of all intercourse between the States until the epidemic ceases.

Senator Call. You think that would be the only remedy in such a case as that?

Dr. Porter. Yes, sir.

Senator Call. The New York Board of Trade and Commerce has recommended the restriction of immigration for a year, but the physicians of New York are all of the opinion, notwithstanding they gave way to the idea, that the local quarantine regulations might be made such as to handle it with safety to the people without such suspension.

Dr. Porter. Coming from the board of trade, are there not other reasons besides sanitary ones that that recommendation was made. or is it based entirely upon sanitary reasons?

Senator Call. Entirely upon the apprehension of an epidemic, they say.

Dr. Porter. I could see, if it had come from a convention of sanitarians, that it might be that way, but from a board of trade and commerce there might be other reasons influencing them in requesting the suspension of immigration.

Senator Gibson. I have heard what you have had to say with reference to the quarantine regulations of the Island of Cuba. Have you anything to say on the subject of whether or not there is a greater likelihood of the introduction of cholera into the United States through Spanish laborers other than through the ordinary ports of quarantine?

Dr. Porter. How is that?

Senator Gibson. Spanish laborers from Cuba going to the United States, to Florida ports that are not the subject of quarantine ordinarily, in view of the communication between Cuba and the United States?

Dr. Porter. Well, of course, there is a possibility of this case occurring. I am inclined to think there is not much probability of it. The Spaniards own a great many fishing smacks that work all along our coast, and there would be no laws to prevent them catching our fish. I do not think the attempt has ever been made to introduce the Spanish laborers through that means as yet. We sought to have that corrected by a coast patrol, under an epidemic fund provided by Congress for the prevention of the introduction of contagious diseases into the United States, thinking that the Treasury Department might be justified in putting on a patrol force, but it has not done so. Our State has provided a patrol boat. Of course one small boat cannot provide absolute protection of the whole coast, but it is a menace to evil-doers, and it has had the effect of keeping a great many of them out of our waters in the past few years since we have had the boat running. The State Board owns a little quarantine boat that it operates from the 1st of May to the 1st of November, running up and down the western coast. The eastern coast is not so liable to infection of yellow fever because there is no probability of communication with Havana on that side. The Spanish smacks come along on the west coast, where fish seem to be more plenty. We have run them out whenever we have found them. The revenue cutter has seized one or two for violation of the law, being inside of the limit, but invariably they have got off under a light fine or something of the kind. We have used every argument and means to urge upon the Treasury Department the necessity for a patrol.

Senator Gibson. Could the opportunities of which we have spoken for the introduction of cholera be decreased by any quarantine regulations?

Dr. Porter. I do not think they could.

Senator Gibson. Either National or State?

Dr. Porter. No, sir. I know of no way except through the increase of efficiency of the patrol boat, and it would take a line of revenue cutters more than the Government has to protect this coast perfectly. As I said before, the only perfect protection is in absolute non-intercourse.

Senator Gibson. The only means of safety under

these conditions, through the means they have, is the increase in the efficiency of the quarantine regulations here to keep it away from Cuba in order to prevent it from going to our country?

Dr. Porter. Yes, sir.

Senator Gibson. With reference to the coast line of Florida to be guarded in the way of excluding disease, I would like to ask if it is not equal to the entire coast line from New York to Florida?

Dr. Porter. I do not know what the distance is, but I know it is a very long stretch; there are 600 miles on one side and nearly 500 on the other.

Senator Gibson. It is only in reference to the efficiency of the State Board of Health of your State, which is entirely creditable so far as I know.

Representative Stump. From your experience as a medical man, and having charge of the sanitary regulations of the State of Florida in respect to immigration, will you state to this committee what would be the proper practical methods to adopt in view of the threatened invasion of our country by cholera next year?

Dr. Porter. I should say, first, that all immigrants, and for that matter all passengers, coming from cholera-infected ports, or ports where contagious or infectious diseases prevail, should be subject to inspection before being allowed to embark; that their baggage and clothing should be properly disinfected, and that the vessel itself should be properly cleaned, disinfected, and afterwards inspected under oath before some government official, either the consul of the port, or some one designated by the Secretary of the Treasury, under whom all commercial regulations seem to be carried on, and that no immigrant should be allowed to embark who is not in a sound state of health and cannot produce a certificate from competent medical authority that he is well and that his presence in the United States does not threaten the country with any infectious disease. I think, also, that these stations could be established under suitable regulations. In that way the inspection would be at the port of departure and not at the port of arrival, and the requirements of quarantine in this country would be lessened.

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Representative Stump. You would not take away all quarantine even after that?

Dr. Porter. No, I should subject them to another thorough inspection on arrival in this country.

Representative Stump. Do you think that would be sufficient?

Dr. Porter. Yes, sir; I do.

Representative Stump. Would not that be a sufficient safeguard, if properly and efficiently conducted?

Dr. Porter. Yes, sir; I think that is the consensus of opinion among all sanitarians in this country, that the work of inspection, disinfection, cleansing, and matters of that kind should be done at the port of departure rather than at the port of arrival.

Representative Coburn. How long would it take to put that into operation?

Dr. Porter. That I could not tell you. That would depend altogether upon the rapidity with which the officials charged with it acted.

Representative Stump. Have you had occasion to look at the proposed legislation by Congress.

Dr. Porter. Yes; I have seen in the daily press, and seen in other ways the proposed measures. I think that the bill introduced by you covers the points that I have just enumerated.

Representative Stump. You would recommend, then, the adoption of that legislation?

Dr. Porter. Yes, sir.

Representative Stump. Would it be necessary, then, if these regulations were carried out, to have immigration suspended at all?

Dr. Porter. No, sir; except under the provisions of that bill. That bill provides that the President may, in his discretion, in certain emergencies issue his proclamation suspending it.

Representative Stump. But that would be a last resort?

Dr. Porter. Yes, sir.

Representative Stump. The bill you have spoken of is what?

Dr. Porter. House bill 9980.

Representative Stump. As amended in ink?

Dr. Porter. Yes, sir.

Senator Proctor. With unrestricted travel and emigration between European ports and this port is there not the same reason, so far as the protection of our United States ports is concerned, that the same measures of precaution should be adopted here as at the port of departure for the United States that would be required at European ports?

Dr. Porter. Certainly.

Representative Stump. I wish to ask Dr. Burgess a question. Please state whether you have read House bill 9980 and heard the testimony of Dr. Porter in regard to it, and what are your views with regard to the efficiency of its provisions?

Dr. Burgess. It looks to me, upon running it over hastily, to be very comprehensive and to the point. I do not know whether there are any points that could be objected to or not without more careful examination.

Represensative Stump. Will you examine it carefully and then give us your opinion?

Dr. Burgess. I will do so. I think it is in line with our present system, is it not, Dr. Porter?

Dr. Porter. I say that the requirements of that bill are precisely what we require in the State of Florida in regard to travel from our State from here, and which is operated by Dr. Burgess, leaving out the disinfection and fumigation of vessels and baggage of passengers, which I have always recommended, as you may know, Dr. Burgess. We have talked the matter over, and we have always agreed that this was the place where all that should be done.

Dr. Burgess. Yes; the port of departure is the place to begin the fight anyhow.

Representative Stump. Then you believe that the provisions of this bill are sufficient, and if carried out would be as efficient a safeguard, so far as immigration to the United States is concerned, as could be established to protect us from cholera?

Dr. Burgess. (After a careful reading of the bill.) We have been hitherto working here in the direction indicated in the bill. It seems to be comprehensive, and I am of the opinion that it is a good measure to be instituted.

OFFICE OF UNITED STATES CONSUL AT HAVANA,
Friday, December 30, 1892.

Present: Senators Proctor, Dubois, Call, Squire, Gibson; Representatives Stump, Covert, Coburn, Wright.

STATEMENT OF DR. MANUEL JOHNSON, MEMBER OF THE SUPERIOR BOARD OF HEALTH OF CUBA.

Dr. Johnson. If you will ask of us such questions as you desire us to answer we will be pleased to give you any information in our power.

Senator Proctor. We wish to learn what would be the probable measures taken here, in case cholera should break out in European ports, to prevent its coming here, fearing, of course, if it gets here it may come to our shores.

Dr. Johnson. I am able to answer you because last summer there was cholera in European ports, and I will tell you what we have done. You must remember that the immigrants to this country from the north of Europe are all rich and not such as come to the United States from those countries. The immigrants to this island are from Spain, not from Germany, not from England, not from French ports. All French, German and English people who come here are rich. If the cholera was in the north part of Europe all steamers arriving here from France, Germany, or England would be quarantined seven days at Mariel, which is about 25 miles from Havana. If at the end of that time no case has broken out the steamer is brought here and fumigated. A steamer from one of these ports in the north of Europe, if she has touched at a Spanish port and been quarantined there, will be held under observation here three days in our port. Our Board of Health is not so well supplied with money as those in richer countries and our methods are not so good as those of richer countries, and therefore we are much more afraid of the disease than you are, who are from a rich country which has better facilities for keeping out the disease.

Senator Proctor. Of course with the progress in medical science and the increased knowledge of proper methods of prevention, it is probable that you would adopt all the best means of keeping out cholera or any infectious disease, is it not?

Dr. Johnson. The disposition of the Board of Health is always to keep diseases of all kinds from the country, and our efforts are constant in that direction.

Senator Proctor. Can you tell us whether any measures, and if so what, have been taken in the past, and would probably be taken, at the Spanish ports of departure, if the cholera should break out in Europe, to prevent its dissemination?

Dr. Johnson. When a steamer sails from a port in the north of Europe and touches at a Spanish port, and then comes here, I know that she has been quarantined three, five, six or seven days or more in Spain, and I am not afraid of such a steamer; but if they have the disease in Spain and a steamer comes from a Spanish port to Havana, I am afraid that our methods here are not sufficient to protect us. If the cholera is in Cadiz, or Barcelona, or any Spanish port, a vessel sailing from there will perhaps have a dirty bill of health, informing the authorities at the port of entry of the existence of cholera. In theory the same law applies to foreign as to Spanish steamers; they should be fumigated and quarantined; but if the cholera is in a Spanish port I suppose the authorities there are a little more strict with foreign steamers than with Spanish steamers. I remember that when the cholera was in the south of Spain six years ago, in Cadiz, not all steamers from those points were stopped here seven days.

Senator Call. Do you mean that they were allowed to come in here without quarantine?

Dr. Johnson. Oh, no; some were stopped here three days or more. If there is a case in the steamer the seven days or more are required. If a vessel comes here with the cholera from Spain, or foreign port, the regulations require her to be quarantined seven days, and if no case occurs on the vessel during those seven days, she is then released from quarantine. If, during those seven days, a case breaks out, seven days more are added, and if again a case breaks out, seven days more, so a vessel might be here several months in that way.

Senator Proctor. Does this apply to all vessels from Spanish ports?

Dr. Johnson. To vessels from all the ports of Spain and to those of all nations.

Senator Proctor. How many quarantine stations are there in Spain?

Dr. Johnson. There are only two ports in Spain where there are quarantine stations—Mahon and Vigo. If a vessel goes from here with a dirty bill of health to Barcelona she is not admitted there, but she will be sent to Mahon, which is the quarantine port for the Mediterranean. Vigo is the Station for Atlantic ports.

Senator Proctor. In case cholera should come here on board a vessel, whether you have any place where the passengers could be disembarked and held?

Dr. Johnson. Yes; at Mariel, twenty or thirty miles from here, we have a hospital station at quarantine. If a steamer arrives at a Cuban port with cholera on board she will go to Mariel and stop there seven days from the last day a person is sick on board; that is the law. The place of Mariel is convenient, and I think passengers would land and be taken care of, not so well as at the Hoffman House in New York, but they can be cared for. Now, I suppose that if a steamer should arrive here with cholera on board the popular clamor would be so high that the steamer would be obliged to go out without landing any passengers.

Senator Call. I would like to ask the opinion of these gentlemen as to the probability of the importation of cholera into Cuba this year?

Dr. Johnson. I do not think it will come. The importation into Cuba of the cholera from European ports except Spain is very difficult. The passage is long, fifteen to twenty or thirty days from European to Cuban ports and the immigration is confined to the rich classes. There are no immigrants here from the north of Europe; they are all travelers. But if the cholera should appear in Spain it would be different.

Senator Squire. A question we have asked of all the other witnesses, and on which we would like your opinion, is this. Supposing that the regulations at the Northern ports of the United States are so severe that immigrants do not get in there, and they are anxious to get away from European ports, and they come by way of Havana, notwithstanding the voyage is long, to get into the United States this way on account of less stringent regulations, would it not be necessary to stop up this gap?

Dr. Johnson. I do not believe it. It is a very long

way and the Spanish Government is very severe with steamers from infested countries.

Senator Proctor. Are there any other Cuban ports where steamers come in except Havana; are there any other ports where disease might be brought in from Europe?

Dr. Johnson. No; steamers foreign to both America and Cuba which come to this island come to Havana, and then to the other ports, except, I believe, there is one French line of steamers which stop at St. Thomas and then at Santiago. The foreign commerce of the other ports than Havana is with the United States.

Consul-General Williams. Yes; I had occasion to make a report on the subject, and I stated that 100 per cent. of the exports of the island, outside of those from Havana, go to the United States. The other ports have no trade at all with Europe.

Senator Proctor. Has cholera ever been epidemic in Havana?

Dr. Johnson. Yes; I believe in 1866, the last time after it was in the States in 1853 or 1854. You sent it to us twice, I think; once in 1833, I believe.

Senator Squire. Do you think there is more chance of your getting it from the United States than of their getting it from you?

Dr. Johnson. Yes; I think it more easily done.

Senator Call. Was the epidemic severe when it was here before?

Dr. Johnson. It was severe.

Senator Proctor. Was the per cent. of mortality greater or less than elsewhere?

Dr. Johnson. We are not very strong in statistics which would enable us to answer that question.

I wish to say that we hope your visit here has been agreeable and that it will be profitable to the two countries. The Superior Board of Health, of which we are members, is not executive, only advisory. We ask always for stringent regulations to protect our island from disease, but are not always able to secure them.

OFFICE OF THE COLLECTOR OF CUSTOMS,
Key West, Fla., December 31, 1892.

Present: Senators Proctor (chairman), Dubois, Call, Squire, Gibson; Representatives Stump, Covert, Coburn, Wright.

Senator Proctor. Senator Call, will you preside; you are better acquainted here than I am?

Senator Call. Will you not take the chair Mr. Stump?

Representative Stump. No, sir; I prefer that you should.

Senator Call took the chair and said:

Gentlemen, you will understand that this committee is charged with an inquiry into the subject of immigration, and especially with reference to epidemic and contagious diseases. We wish to gain information as to the character of the intercourse between the island of Cuba and the ports of Florida, and as to the danger of importation of epidemic diseases, particularly cholera. We wish to know how a restriction of immigration would affect the business of manufacturing here at Key West and the interests of this place. If there is any gentleman here who wishes to be heard he will have an opportunity. This committee is here for the purpose of enabling the interests of Key West and of Florida to be considered in the legislation which Congress proposes to enact. There are various propositions; one for the absolute prohibition of all intercourse in view of the apprehended epidemic of cholera next year. Then there is a proposition embraced in a bill which Mr. Chairman Stump has proposed, to restrict and limit it, subject to quarantine regulations, with authority in the President to suspend all intercourse between this country and foreign countries where there is danger of cholera. Now, we suppose that it would probably injuriously affect the interests of Key West to have a total suspension of intercourse between this island and Cuba, the cigar interests being largely dependent upon that. The committee would be glad to hear from any of the gentlemen present in reference to this proposition.

Representative Covert. I suggest that the mayor be heard as representing the municipality of Key West.

Senator Call.—We would be glad to hear him.

STATEMENT OF DR. R. J. PERRY, MAYOR OF KEY WEST, FLA.

Mayor Perry. Mr. Chairman, and gentlemen of the committee: There is no doubt in the world that if the inhibition of immigration was made positive and absolute so far as Cuba is concerned the manufacturing interests of this place would be very materially affected. Whether it can be safely said that the interests of Key West in that respect should be protected in the event of Havana becoming infected with cholera to the extent of allowing Cubans to come over here is a doubtful question. I should doubt the propriety of it, however much such inhibition might affect the manufacturing interests of Key West. I believe that the safer course to pursue is to vest the power in the President under certain circumstances to declare absolute quarantine if he and his advisers think best to do so. I believe that the matter can be safely intrusted, so far as Key West and Florida are concerned, to the State Board of Health, of which Dr. Porter is the worthy official. We place upon them, of course, the responsibility of protecting us from contagious diseases, cholera and yellow fever, and if we place upon them that responsibility they certainly should be invested with power to meet it. I know that all of them are absolutely conscientious and painstaking in their efforts to suppress anything that has an appearance of contagious disease, as has been thoroughly evinced in their course heretofore. And whlie I say there is no doubt but that the manufacturing interests here would be seriously affected if a quarantine is placed against Cuba, I am satisfied that it can be more safely intrusted to the State Board of Health of Florida than with any other persons, with, of course, the proviso that if the President should at any time decide with his advisers that it was safer or better generally for the interests of the country to prohibit all immigration, then it should be done. There is no doubt if the contiguous ports become affected that our only safety lies in absolute prohibition of all immigration.

Representative Stump. Does your State Board of Health have its office at the State capital?

Mayor Perry. No, sir; they are located in different portions of the State, watching out for different interests. Their headquarters, I believe, is generally considered to be

at Jacksonville. Dr. Porter is traveling over the State from time to time and is very active and energetic in that line. I believe that, so far as the sanitary interests of the General Government and the local interests here are concerned they are entirely safe in the hands of the State Board of Health.

Senator Call. You are a physician, I believe?

Mayor Perry. I was educated as a physician, but I have not been in practice for a long time.

Senator Call. What is your idea as to the danger of the importation of cholera from Cuba and the West Indies?

Mayor Perry. I do not think there is any doubt but what it would be introduced here if it prevailed in those ports. I doubt whether we could keep it out entirely without absolute suspension of immigration.

Senator Call. Do you remember the last time cholera was in Cuba?

Mayor Perry. I do not remember. There has been no cholera in Cuba since I have resided in Key West, some twenty-five years, I think.

Senator Call. Was not the cholera there in 1865?

Mayor Perry. I think not. There may have been a few sporadic cases, but no epidemic, I think.

STATEMENT OF DR. R. D. MURRAY.

Senator Call. You are a surgeon in the Marine-Hospital Service, are you?

Dr. Murray. I am.

Senator Call. Have you been here many years?

Dr. Murray. Yes, sir; thirteen out of twenty.

Senator Call. Will you state to the committee your views in regard to the danger of the importation of cholera to Key West from Europe or anywhere else?

Dr. Murray. We are in no danger from Europe at all, because practically we have no communication with Europe direct.

Senator Call. Are there no vessels engaged in carrying phosphates from here to Europe?

Dr. Murray. They do not come from Europe directly here.

Senator Call. Where do they come from?

Dr. Murray. From South America and the West

Indies. Having taken cargoes down there they come here on the way back.

Senator Call. What is your idea as to the danger of the importation of cholera here from any source—Cuba or anywhere else?

Dr. Murray. I cannot say candidly that we are in any danger at all. If there was cholera in Cuba the Board of Health here in this State would do something. Cuba is the only point of danger.

Senator Call. What do you think of the danger of their having cholera in Cuba?

Dr. Murray. I do not know what they are doing over there to prevent it.

Senator Call. If it should be epidemic in the old country, as it was last year, do you think there would be danger of its getting into Cuba?

Dr. Murray. I think so.

Senator Call. What about the communication between this place and Cuba? Is it frequent?

Dr. Murray. We have steamers four times a week in winter and three in summer. Besides that schooners go. I have had some experience in quarantine matters, and I cannot see how we are in danger from Cuba with the restrictions which have heretofore existed, with the regulations which have prevailed for the last three or four years.

Senator Call. That is to say, you think the present system of the board of health in Florida is adequate to protect this portion of the country?

Dr. Murray. I do not say that the system is sufficient, but I think it is sufficient for our safety; in fact, I know it is.

Senator Call. Then you have no suggestions to make with reference to any additional precautions?

Dr. Murray. I have studied the subject considerably, first and last, for nineteen years, and I think that as we are going now we will be in safety, particularly as regards cholera. You understand that Florida has an agent in Havana who is on the constant lookout.

Senator Call. The Marine Hospital Service has.

Dr. Murray. The State Board of Health of Florida has the same man, Dr. Burgess. He is agent of the State Board of Health and agent of the Marine Hospital Service. He is on the lookout there persistently.

Senator Call. Does the State of Florida pay him anything?

Dr. Murray. No, sir; but to increase his authority he was made agent of the State board.

Senator Squire. There is a good deal depending upon one man there.

Dr. Murray. One man is all we want.

Senator Dubois. You think there would be no danger if the cholera broke out in Cuba?

Dr. Murray. Well, if it appeared there today Cuba would be a distant land tonight. If there had been a case of cholera last night in Cuba you gentlemen would not have been here tonight.

Senator Call. Suppose there should be cholera in Cuba, and Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas have different quarantine laws from Florida, what then?

Dr. Murray. Then I would abolish the whole business and start new.

Senator Call. What would be the result if you didn't abolish the whole business?

Dr. Murray. We are running under State rights now, and each State looks out for itself.

Senator Call. Suppose each State did not?

Dr. Murray. That would be bad for the other States as well as for the States that failed.

Senator Call. That is to say, a local quarantine would be inefficient if neighboring States had not the same laws?

Dr. Murray. Always. Quarantine should be put under the control of the collector of customs.

Senator Call. Do you mean that the question whether a vessel should be stopped or not should be decided by the collector of customs?

Dr. Murray. The right of a vessel to trade should be at the disposition of the collector of customs.

Senator Squire. Do you mean by that that you would not be in favor of any regulations to be enforced by the general authority or by the Secretary of the Treasury?

Dr. Murray. Yes; by the collector of customs.

Senator Squire. Do you mean that the individual collector at a particular port should be the only judge?

Dr. Murray. No; it should be under the direction of the Secretary of the Treasury.

Senator Squire. Would you not be in favor of a gen-

eral system for the United States rather than to have separate systems that might differ widely?

Dr. Murray. I have been in favor of it for nineteen years, and wrote the first paper that ever appeared in support of it. I have served in quarantine eight summers and five winters.

Senator Squire. You spoke so strongly of the protection by your State board that I wanted to bring out your idea on this point.

Dr. Murray. I spoke of our regulations here and the facility with wh'ch new regulations would be enforced and put in operation. It would only take about an hour.

Representative Stump. I understand that a good and efficient quarantine at Havana would afford you all the protection you need.

Dr Murray. I think so.

Representative Stump. That is, at the port of departure?

Dr. Murray. Yes, sir.

Representative Stump. Would not that afford, in your judgment, looking at it generally, an ample safeguard with regard to European immigration?

Dr. Murray. I speak of Key West only.

Representative Stump. Why would it apply only to Key West? Would it not be equally true of European ports?

Dr. Murray. If you use the same precautions in other ports as are used by us in Havana the country would be safe.

Representative Stump. Would not that reduce the danger to a minimum?

Dr. Murray. I think so. I know it would.

Representative Stump. Without any suspension of immigration at all?

Dr. Murray. Certainly.

Senator Squire. That is one of the points this committee has had under consideration, whether to favor a law suspending immigration for the period of one year, or to report a bill not so stringent.

Dr. Murray. I think you had better make it safe.

Senator Squire. Is there any way to make it safe without stopping immigration? You say that if there had been cholera in Havana yesterday we would not have been

here tonight. You mean by that that we would not have got in here at all?

Dr. Murray. I do mean that; we understand it so.

Senator Squire. The question is, whether it is best to have a general law enacted at this session of Congress.

Dr. Murray. Candidly, I believe that if you wash the clothes and wash the people well before they come, you may bring people safely in the steerage, in the second cabin, or in the first cabin. I know they tried that at Hamburg and did not succeed. If their clothing is not washed they should not be allowed to come. People do not bring cholera in their persons; they bring it in their luggage. I do not know that the cholera has ever come in a person across the Atlantic; I very much doubt if it has. Cholera comes with well people, and soon after they get here trouble commences; that has been the history over and over again. They are not washed on the other side; their clothing is not washed on the other side, as it should be. Our Florida Board of Health have sought for six years to have the Cubans come here clean, bag and baggage, and for five years this town has been free from any danger from Cuba.

DETAILS OF ARREST FOR DISSEMINATION OF RUMOR OF YELLOW FEVER.

From the Port Tampa Mail.]

Few appear to be aware that there is a law on the Statute books of this State forbidding the dissemination of false rumors or statements concerning any infectious disease; there is one party however, at least, who is now aware of the existence of the law; he is Mr. J. H. Robinson. We don't know how the rumor got started, but there certainly was a rumor that fever had broken out in Port Tampa, the early part of this week; of course there was nothing in it, as there has been no yellow fever nearer than Havana this year, except the cases on board the "Eva Douglas," out in the Gulf forty miles away. But a clerk working in one of our business houses somehow became frightened Sunday morning, demanded the money due him, obtained it and skipped by the first train. The employer was naturally worried and walked out on the street; met a couple of men coming from the wharf, one of whom was Mr. Robinson. They stopped him and made some inquiries in regard to the residence of a gentleman that they wished to see, and the merchant gave them what information he possessed; then, the fright of his clerk being on his mind, asked these men if they had heard any rumors of the existence of fever in this town; the men said they had not, as they had just landed at Picnic Island. This closed the conversation.

The question he had been asked so worked on Mr. Robinson's mind that by the time he had reached the residence of Mr. Starling, the gentleman he was in search of, he was convinced that a first-class epidemic was raging here. He informed Mr. Starling and several other parties, who

were present at that gentleman's house, that "two sea captains had died on the wharf, and the disease was supposed to be yellow fever," and to one of the parties he stated without reservation, that "two sea captains had died of yellow fever, and he was going to get out before the town was quarantined." Of course his statements caused consternation among his hearers, until investigation revealed the falsity of the whole story. Mr. Robinson, however, departed for St. Petersburg as fast as a good boat and a fair wind could carry him. The authorities, however, determined to put a stop to these idle rumors which are constantly causing incalculable trouble and damage to so many towns in South Florida. Tuesday morning Deputy Sheriff Gregory took the "Kissimmee" for St. Petersburg, with a warrant in his pocket for the arrest of Mr. Robinson. Robinson was tried before Judge Miranda Tuesday afternoon and held in a $500 bond to appear before the Hillsborough county grand jury at the next session of the Circuit Court. It is to be hoped that this action will check the circulation of these damaging stories.

MULLET KEY QUARANTINE STATION.

(Summary of Work from May 1st to November 15, 1892.)

MONTHS.	Steamers.	Sail.	Total	No. Disinfected	Tonnage.	No. Crew.	No. Passengers.	Pieces of Baggage Disinfected	Amount of Fees.
May	23	23	46	15	18,959	872	423	218	$ 693 50
June	25	13	38	12	19,754	875	437	106	500 00
July	20	12	32	12	17,597	784	445	114	430 00
August	22	13	35	14	21,276	814	495	190	760 00
September	23	13	36	13	23,759	940	343	175	666 00
October	23	12	35	15	26,465	899	340	234	788 00
November	12	6	18	5	12,782	449	201	44	225 00
Total	148	92	240	86	140,592	5,633	2,684	1,081	4,062 50
In 1891	145	70	215	76	110,043	5,278	2,620	750	3 092 50
An Increase of	3	22	25	10	30,549	355	64	331	970 00

Of the above, 15 vessels with 14,549 tons went to Charlotte Harbor, the remainder to ports on Tampa Bay, principally Port Tampa.

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COUNTIES THAT REPORTED DURING THE YEAR 1892.

	January.	February.	March.	April.	May	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Total.
Alachua	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12
Bradford	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	1	4
Brevard	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2
Columbia	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	8
Dade	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	..	1	1	1	1	11
De Soto	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12
Duval	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	..	1	11
Escambia	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12
Franklin	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12
Hamilton	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	1	4
Hillsboro	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12
Jefferson	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	1	1	1	6
Lake	1	1	1	..	..	..	1	1	1	1	1	1	9
Leon	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	1	1	8
Levy	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	1	1	1	6
Manatee	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12
Marion	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12
Monroe	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12
Nassau	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12
Orange	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12
Osceola	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12
Polk	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12
Putnam	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12
St. Johns	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12
Santa Rosa	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12
Suwannee	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	3
Taylor	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12
Volusia	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12
Jacksonville, City of	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12
Pensacola, City of	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	12
Totals	23	23	23	21	22	22	25	25	28	29	29	30	..

DISEASES CAUSING HEAVIEST MORTALITY IN 1892, CLASSIFIED BY MONTHS.

	January.	February.	March.	April.	May.	June.	July.	August.	September.	October.	November.	December.	Whole Year.
Consumption	36	30	34	19	30	13	15	16	16	33	26	35	303
Fever (Malarial)	1	1	2	5	4	6	23	29	30	39	27	5	172
Pneumonia	25	28	22	15	18	4	1	7	2	9	11	14	156
Fever (Typhoid)	3	9	7	16	12	16	12	23	9	12	4	10	133
Heart Disease	15	3	15	5	10	11	6	9	8	16	16	16	130
Diarrhœa	7	1	5	8	14	19	22	15	12	9	4	8	124
Cholera Infantum	..	..	4	5	18	28	25	17	8	4	5	5	119
Meningitis	4	6	1	7	8	9	12	8	6	4	5	5	75
Marasmus	..	5	3	2	7	11	10	7	4	8	3	4	64

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DEATH RATES.

	1891	1892.
January	16.19	16.65
February	13.02	12.41
March	12.36	14.91
April	13.22	14.35
May	11.75	18.51
June	12.64	15.22
July	16.24	13.75
August	13 33	14.27
September	12.37	10.39
October	12 66	13 41
November	14.23	11.40
December	11.58	11.03
The whole year	13.22	13.86

AGES OF DECEDENTS, YEAR 1892.

	White.		Colored.		Total.
	M	F	M	F	
Under 1 year	269	240	181	191	881
Between 1 and 5 years	107	85	106	96	394
" 5 " 10 "	26	19	17	21	83
" 10 " 15 "	17	11	13	12	53
" 15 " 20 "	23	29	33	47	132
" 20 " 25 "	42	34	47	36	159
" 25 " 30 "	66	39	46	40	191
" 30 " 40 "	122	83	75	66	346
" 40 " 50 "	77	60	59	54	250
" 50 " 60 "	77	35	45	36	193
" 60 " 70 "	84	65	54	32	235
" 70 " 80 "	72	45	32	30	179
" 80 " 90 "	27	27	13	14	81
" 90 " 100 "	3	2	3	2	10
Over 100 years	1			2	3
Not stated	11	12	12	16	51
Total	1,024	786	736	695	3,241

Average age of decedents—29 62 years.

SUMMARY, 1892

DEATHS.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
White	1,024	786	1,810
Colored	736	695	1,431
Total	1,760	1,481	3,241

BIRTHS—WHITE

Legitimate	1,349	1,133	2,482
Illegitimate	11	17	28
Total	1,360	1,150	2,510

BIRTHS—COLORED.

Legitimate	660	638	1,298
Illegitimate	5	44	95
Total	711	682	1,393

DISEASES.	Alachua.	Bradford.	Brevard.	Columbia.	Dade.	De Soto.	Duval	Escambia.	Franklin.	Hamilton.	Hillsboro.	Jefferson.	Lake.	Leon.	Levy.	Manatee	Marion.	Monroe.	Nassau.	Orange.	Osceola.	Polk.	Putnam.	St. Johns.	Santa Rosa.	Suwannee.	Taylor.	Volusia.	Jacksonville.	Pensacola.	Total.
Abortion							1																						1		2
Abscess (Abdominal)																		1													1
" (Bowels)																							1								1
" (Cerebral)																		1			1		1							2	6
" (Liver)						1			1									2					1					2		1	8
" (Lungs)																		1					1								2
" (Pelvic)																								1							1
" (Renal)																				1											1
" (Not stated)								1																						1	2
Accident (Not stated)						1	1			2							1						1		1				1	1	9
Adentitis																		1													1
Addison's Disease																													1		1
Alcoholism								1			1									1					1					5	9
Anæmia																		1										1	1		3
Aneurism								1															1					1	1		4
Angina Pectoris																		1											4		5
Apoplexy	3				2		1				3			1				11		3	1		1	1			1	2	3	1	36
Ascites											1																				1
Asphyxia							1				1							3				4							1	1	11
Asthma											1							1	1	1		2									6
Bladder (Disease of)																	1														1
Blood Poisoning	1																		1			1		1						1	5
Bowels (Congestion of)	2			2		1		1				2	1						2	1		3	1	1	2	1			2	3	23
" (Inflammation of)						1	1				1						1		2	1		1	1						7	1	17
" (Consumption of)																													1		1
" (Obstruction of)								1																							1
Bright's Disease	1	1						1			1		1				1	3	1	1	2		2	5		1		1	13	2	37
Bronchitis	2						1	2	3		2			1				11			1	1	2	4				2	14	13	57
Burns				1				1								1	3	2	1			1	2						3	2	17
Cancer (Breast)																													3		3
" (Eye)																													1		1
" (Face)																		1					1								2
" (Liver)																	1	1													2
" (Œsophagus)																														1	1

" (Pancreas)																													1		1	
" (Stomach)										1								1	1	1									1	2	7	
" (Testicles)					1																										1	
" (Tonsils)																								1							1	
" (Uterine)									1															2					4	5	12	
" (Not stated)							1			2		1												1					4		9	
Carbuncle																													1		1	
Carditis																	1														1	
Catarrh																	1	1					1	1						1	4	
Cerebral concussion						1													1										1		3	
" congestion	3		2							3	5			2			4	1	1			3	2		1		3	10	5	45		
" embolism		1																										1			2	
" hyperæmia													1																		1	
" meningitis																													1	1	2	
" softening																	1			1									1	4	1	8
Chicken pox																															1	
Child-birth	4				3	3	1					2			2		1	4		2								1			23	
Chlorosis																				1											1	
Cholera infantum	4		1	2	2	1	5	3		5							2	38	3	4	3	2	1	7			3	25	9	120		
" morbus																		1											1		2	
Colic	1																			1					1						3	
Congestion	1				1		1	1			8						1												1		14	
" (Stomach)																			2										1		3	
Congestive chill						1														2							1		1		5	
Consumption	10	3	1	2		4	7	10		15	2	1	5	3	1	10	50	4	22	1	8	13	8	6	1	1	7	83	22	300		
Convulsions	2						2	3	3	3		4	2			3	2	3	2		1	1	5	1	1			15	5	58		
Croup				2				1		1			1			2	2	2										2	2	15		
Cystitis							1							1														1	2		5	
Defective vitality				2						2						1	6												12		23	
Delirium tremens								1																					2		3	
Dentition											1	1			2	6	5	1					1						12	1	30	
Diarrhœa	5		3		1	2	4	1	2	10	5	5	2	2	1	8	5	2	4	3	4	3	3	4	2		5	25	12	123		
Diabetes																1	1										1		2	1	6	
Diphtheria		1					2			1						1							2						4	1	12	
Dropsy	4		3			3	1	1		5	1	1	1			2	5	3	3	1		3	3	4	1			13	2	60		
Drowned						3	1	3			1					1	2	3	4		1	1	3	2					5	35		
Dysphagia							1																								1	
Elampsia	1						1				1														1				1		6	
Eczema																									1						1	
Ephysema	1																														1	
Encephalitis						1				2			2							1		1							6	4	17	
Enteritis	1				1		3			2								12		2							1		9	6	37	
Entero-colitis	5						1		2									9		4	3			1			1	3	4		33	
Epilepsy	1																	1	1					1	1				2		7	

DISEASES.	Alachua.	Bradford.	Brevard.	Columbia.	Dade.	De Soto.	Duval.	Escambia.	Franklin.	Hamilton.	Hillsboro.	Jefferson.	Lake.	Leon	Levy.	Manatee.	Marion.	Monroe.	Nassau.	Orange.	Osceola	Polk.	Putnam.	St. Johns.	Santa Rosa.	Suwannee.	Taylor.	Volusia.	Jacksonville.	Pensacola.	Total.
Erysipelas																				1										1	3
Exhaustion									1																						1
Fever (Catarrhal)			1							2																					4
" (Congestive)			1														24														172
" (Malarial)			5	3	10		2		1		5	18		1	1	2	1	6	5	9		3	1						31	5	9
" (Puerperal)			2						1		1	1	3	6	1			1	1	1			1	3							1
" (Scarlet)											13					3		8	3	5	1	8	1	5		3		1	29	27	132
" (Typhoid)					8	2		3	2																				2		6
Fracture of skull			6				1				2	3					1	2	1	1										2	22
Fracture of spine			1								2	1						1											7	3	23
Frozen																		6		1									9	1	10
Gangrene					1												1	18						1					4	1	133
Gastritis					1																										1
Gastro-enteritis			1															1													7
General Debility			2		1													1													4
Heart Disease			5		3	1	1	4	4	2	2							4											11		98
Hemorrhage (Bowels)																													3		6
" (Cerebral)			1						1	1								1													3
" (Lungs)																		51	3	1			1						19	11	98
" (Puerperal)																		1	1										4		6
" (Umbilical)																		1	1										1		3
" (Not Stated)																															1
Hepatatis																															1
Hernia																															
Hip Disease																															1
Homicide																															1
Hydrocephalus																															
Inanition																															
Influenza																															
Insanity																															
Internal injuries																															
Intestinal obstruction																															
Intussusception																															
Invagination																															

Jaundice																															10
Kidney, Disease of																															5
" Inflammation of																															2
La Grippe																															2
Laryngitis																															36
Leprosy																															1
Lightning																															2
Liver, Congestion of																															1
" Cirrhosis of																															2
" Disease of																															30
Lungs, Congestion of																															1
" Gangrene of																															2
Lynched																															2
Malformation																															63
Marasmus																															8
Measles																															65
Meningitis																															5
Metritis																															12
Nephritis																															2
Nervous prostration																															1
Neurothenia																															1
Œdema (Glottis)																															1
" (Lungs)																															48
Paralysis																															1
Paraplegia																															35
Peritonitis																															5
Pericarditis																															13
Pertussis																															2
Placentia previa																															156
Pneumonia																															22
Poisoned (Drugs)																															1
" (Opium)																															2
" (Potash)																															1
" (Strychnine)																															17
" (Uræmic)																															4
Premature birth																															2
Pyæmia																															8
Rachitis																															1
Rheumatism																															102
Salivation																															10
Scrofula																															140
Senile decay																															
Septicæmia																															
Still-birth																															

DISEASES.	Alachua.	Bradford.	Brevard.	Columbia.	Dade.	De Soto.	Duval.	Escambia.	Franklin.	Hamilton.	Hillsboro.	Jefferson.	Lake	Leon.	Levy.	Manatee.	Marion.	Monroe.	Nassau.	Orange.	Osceola.	Polk.	Putnam.	St. Johns.	Santa Rosa.	Suwannee.	Taylor.	Volusia.	Jacksonville.	Pensacola.	Total.
Stomach, Cirrhosis of																													1		1
Stomatitis	1																														1
Suffocation									1								1														14
Suicide	1		1							1			1					2		1											1
Syncope														1																	19
Syphilis	1			1			1	2										3				2	2			1			8	1	23
Tetanus									1		1					2	1	4						5		1			3	1	2
Thrush									1																				1		2
Tonsilitis																															
Trismus nascentium								6			1				1			37	5				1	2				6	9	68	
Tumor (Bladder)																		1													1
" (Breast)																													1		1
" (Cerebral)																														1	1
" (Ovarian)				1					1															1							3
Ulcer (Bowels)																								1							1
" (Stomach)	1																							1							3
Uræmia	3								1		1							1		1				1					6	2	16
Vermes																							1		2	1				1	5
Wounds (Railroad cars)								3				1							1				1		2						8
" (Crushed)																	1	2													3
" (Fall)									1				1					1		1									1		5
" (Gunshot)	7		1	2		1	2	1	3		3	1	1			1	4	1		1	1	1	2		2				3	3	41
" (Cut)	1																					1				1					3
Cause not stated	5			1		3	20		3		12	7		5			9	9	7	6	1	10	3	8	1		4	4	15	1	134
Totals	145	19	5	61	9	31	83	99	49	16	147	63	28	50	20	20	142	490	96	130	27	96	90	139	57	33	31	53	687	295	3,241